The Journal

OF THE

Jamaica Agricultural Society.

The more people do the more they can do; he who does nothing renders himself incapable of doing anything; while we are executing one work we are preparing ourselves for undertaking another.

Vol. XXI. APRIL, 1917. No. 4.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

The usual monthly Meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, was held at the Office of the Society, 11 North Parade, Kingston, on Thursday, 15th March, 1917, at 11.40 a.m. Present: Robert Craig (presiding), A. W. Douet, H. Q. Levy, E. W. Muirhead, Rev. W. T. Graham, and the Secretary, Jno. Barclay.

As the Legislative Council was sitting, those members of the Board who were also members of Council, were all absent.

Apologies for Absence.—Apologies for absence were received from the President, Messrs James Dougall, Adam Roxburgh, A. W. Farquharson and A. C. L. Martin.

Confirmation of Minutes.—The Minutes of the previous Meeting having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Statement of Accounts.—The usual monthly Statement of Accounts was submitted.

Questions.—Mr. Muirhead asked as follows:—

"Will the Secretary say if he is aware of the conditions of recent regulations imposed by the American Government relative to the importation of Citrus Fruits into America, whereby all fruit must be of a certain standard of maturity, or test so much per cent of saccharine matter before same will be permitted to be allowed for sale, if not, will he ascertain from the Government if they are in possession of such information and lay same before the public for their guidance."

The Secretary said he had no information on the subject, but he would make enquiry of the Colonial Secretary.

As arising out of the previous Minutes, the following matters were considered:—

(*a*) *Imperial Trade Conference.*—Rev. Mr. Graham moved the following resolution, notice of which he had given at the previous meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Muirhead and passed unanimously:—

"That the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society expresses its opinion that the special circumstances affecting the interests of the West Indies that need to be considered at the proposed Imperial Trade Conference, are such as require direct representation at the Conference, and hereby respectfully asks our island Government to initiate such efforts as may secure from the Imperial Government the valued privilege of direct representation at the proposed Imperial Trade Conference."

The Secretary was directed to forward this to the Government.

(*b*) *Coconut Disease.*—The following letters from the C.S.O. were read:

(i) No. 2618-2070. 24th February, 1917.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, C.S.O., No. 130, dated the 6th inst., on the subject of Coconut Disease in Western Portland and more especially on Spring Garden Estate, and to inform you in reply that the Director of Agriculture, to whom your letter was referred, reports that the Government Microbiologist was requested to visit Spring Garden and report on the condition of the coconut trees there some time ago, but that he has been busy with Pimento Disease. The Director adds, however, that the manager of the estate reports very successful results from the work of the Inspector of Plant Diseases on the property."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Actg. Colonial Secretary.

(ii) No 2617-2935 17, dated 24th February, 1917, saying that the Director of Agriculture was requested to instruct the Microbiologist to visit and report on the coconut disease at Nonsuch and Little Spring Garden, while he was in Portland.

(*c*) *Panama Disease.*—A letter was read from the C.S.O., No. 2592-1391, dated 24th February, 1917, stating that in reply to a suggestion in a letter from the Society, His Excellency had decided to ask certain gentlemen to investigate and report upon the position of affairs in regard to Panama Disease in West Portland.

(*d*) *Illustrations for Journal.*—A letter from the Gleaner Co. was read offering to take up the question of blocks for illustrating the JOURNAL, and pointing out that their photo-engraving department could supply blocks which would give satisfactory prints on good paper with good quality ink. They also offered the use of all blocks appearing in the Gleaner free of charge, and they would charge only for those blocks that were specially made for the Society. The Secretary presented two proofs of blocks—one produced by the Gleaner Co. and one imported, showing that it was possible to get fairly satisfactory prints at a reasonable rate. After discussion, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Editor, and if funds were available, he could illustrate articles in the JOURNAL at his discretion.

(*e*) *Special Meeting of Board of Management—Economic Conference of the Allies and Food Supply.*—The Secretary read report of the Special Meeting of the Board of Management as follows:—

The Special Meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, which was arranged for by the Meeting of the Board held on Thursday, the 15th February, 1917, to be held to consider the Report of the Special Committee on the Economic Conference of the Allies and Food Supplies for the United Kingdom, was duly held at the Office of the Society, 11 North Parade, Kingston, on Thursday, the 1st March, 1917, at 11.40 a.m. There were present: His Excellency Sir Wm. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B. (presiding), Hons. P. C. Cork, C.M.G., D. Campbell, R. P. Simmonds and S. S.Stedman; Messrs. A. W. Farquharson, H. Q. Levy, Adam Roxburgh, Conrad Watson, Rev. W. T. Graham and the Secretary, Jno. Barclay.

Apology for absence was submitted from Mr. Robt. Craig together with a letter on the subject to be discussed, which was read.

The Report of the Committee was submitted and considered item by item.

The Committee appointed to consider and submit to this Society recommendations as to the permanent measures to be adopted after the War in accordance with the suggestions of the Paris Economic Conference, transmit herewith in the form of Resolutions the decisions arrived at.

The Committee in pursuance of the terms of the reference to them, invited the Royal Society of Agriculture and Commerce, and the Northside Sugar Planters' Association to name members to be added to the Committee, and also by public notification in the Newspapers, afforded the public the opportunity of submitting their opinions. The reply from the Northside Sugar Planters' Association nominating Mr. Dougall and Mr. Dewar came too late, but the Royal Society of Agriculture and Commerce gave material assistance

In the first Resolution it was resolved to delete the first clause of paragraph 2. dealing with bananas.

It was resolved to add, in paragraph 5, the words "cocoa, annatto and other products" after the word "coffee."

It was resolved to delete paragraph 6, dealing with cocoa.

The Secretary was instructed to send on a copy of the revised Report to the Government, and also to send a copy to the Merchants Exchange.

The second Resolution passed by the Committee, dealing with steamship connection with Canada, was considered by the Governor to be outside the scope of reference of the Committee.

The third Resolution dealing with the establishment of a Dry Dock in Jamaica was also considered by His Excellency not to be included within the scope of reference of the Committee.

The fourth Resolution dealing with the exodus of labourers from the Colony, was also considered to be outside the scope of reference of the Committee. The Secretary however was directed to send these Resolutions to His Excellency for his information and any action he considered advisable.

The text of the Resolutions submitted to the Government is as follows:—

First Resolution.—

1. Whereas this Committee have been requested to advise on certain questions as to the future commercial and industrial policy of the United Kingdom raised by the conclusions of the Conference of the Allies, of which the first is—What industries are essential to the future safety of the nation, and what steps should be taken to maintain and establish them—this Committee declare that, in their opionion, the industries essential to the safety of the nation in which Jamaica is specially concerned are those of the supply of food, dye stuffs and tobacco, and that the leading products coming under this head are Fruit (Bananas, Citrus Fruits and Coconuts), Sugar, Coffee, Cocoa, Dye-woods, Dye-wood Extracts, Tobacco and Manufactures thereof.

2. That the exports of Citrus Fruits would be materially stimulated by a preference being secured in shipments to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, Colonies and Allied Countries which do or may impose import duties on such Fruits.

3. That an increasing industry may develop in the manufacture of Copra (dried Coconut meat) and that care should be taken that admission of Coconuts and of this product on most favoured nation terms to Allied Countries is made secure.

4. That Preferential Tariff treatment would be essential too, and would probably induce very considerable development of the Sugar Industry, but that also countervailing duties should be arranged as a protection against Bounties if and when these are again given hy foreign countries.

5. That the production of Coffee, Cocoa, Annotto and other products would be stimulated if preferential treatment is generally given to British Possessions and Colonies, and Jamaica is admitted to share therein.

That the sale of Coffee to French markets has been often unduly hampered by the Tariff arrangements of that country, which demanded a heavy surtax when Coffee was shipped by a steamer which called at any European port before reaching France; and that it would be a material assistance to trade with that country if this regulation could be altered.

6. That this Committee desire to direct attention to the anamalous position occupied by Jamaica produce in regard to French Custom duties, whereby Jamaica products come under the maximum tariff.

They appeal to His Excellency the Governor to bespeak the attention of The Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the matter with a view to putting Jamaica produce on the most favourable terms possible.

7. That whereas in the suggested lines of action the Conference of the Allies undertook to adopt measures for facilitating the exchange of products by the establishment of direct and rapid land and sea transport services at low rates, this Committee represent that this would especially assist Jamaican exports and should be supported so far as possible, but that any subsidies given to Steamship Lines should be strictly dependent upon—

(a) Control of freight rates by the Government granting the subsidy, and by the fixing of maximum rates from time to time.

(b) The prohibition of the formation of any Conference or Combine.

(c) The prohibition of the granting of rebates dependent on the restriction of business to certain lines.

(d) The provision of suitable accommodation for the safe conveyance of fruit or other perishable cargo.

8. That this Committee represent that the Tariff of this Colony has hitherto been framed with a view to the raising of necessary Revenue, but that there would be no objection to the principle of preferential treatment to importations from the United Kingdom, British Possessions and Colonies and to Allied Nations being adopted provided that such treatment becomes the practice of the British Empire generally; but that nothing should be done to prevent similar arrangements with other friendly nations who grant reciprocal terms.

Moved by Mr. Gamble.

Seconded by Mr. Adolph Levy.

Second Resolution.—

Whereas an order having been placed by the Canadian Government Railway for the building of two steamers which when completed are to ply between Halifax and St. John, New Brunswick, on the Atlantic, and Vancouver, B.C., on the Pacific, via the Panama Canal:

Be it resolved that this Committee recommend to the His Excellency the Governor that he should request the Secretary of State for the Colonies to communicate with the Government of the Dominion of Canada with a view to having those steamers built and equipped for the carriage of bananas and other perishable fruit, and that inducements be offered to make Kingston, Jamaica, a port of call.

And whereas the Blue Book of the Dominion of Canada discloses that the value of her imports of our principal products for the eleven months ending February 1916, was as follows:—

Sugar	$19,120,968
Coffee	1,560,994
Cocoa	956,515
Citrus Fruit	2, 05,798
Bananas	2,533.156

Be it further resolved that His Excellency the Governor be requested to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies (a) to call to the attention of the Canadian Government that two steamers would be unable to take care of the proportion of the above products which Jamaica could supply in addition to the commodities shipped from the Atlantic provinces of Canada to the Pacific provinces and *vice versa* (b) To endeavour to arrange with the Canadian Government for the extension of the service so as to allow of shipment of Canadian products to Jamaica and Jamaica products to Canada.

Moved by Mr. Adolph Levy.

Seconded by Mr. Farquharson.

Third Resolution.—

That a factor of great importance in the future development of the Colony would be the establishment of a Dry Dock capable of accommodating vessels of large tonnage, and that such Dock should be established by means of Government aid.

Moved by Mr. Farquharson.

Seconded by Mr. Soutar.

Fourth Resolution.—

That this Committee is convinced that the continuous and increasing exodus of labourers from the Colony to seek work in foreign countries is impeding the development of the resources of the Island, and that it is of urgent importance that early measures should be adopted to arrest such exodus by the creation of conditions which will induce an improvement in the status of the labouring population.

Moved by Mr. Farquharson.

Seconded by Mr. DeMercado.

The Report of the Special Food Supply Committee was then submitted and read.

The Governor said that he had had no communication on the subject from the

urgent: rather, it could be considered as a preliminary enquiry and that the knowledge gained would be useful in case the necessity arose to help the United Kingdom with foodstuffs. The Secretary should send him a copy of the Report, and a copy should also be sent to the Secretary of the Food (War) Supply Committee of London.

The Secretary reported that he had shipped a barrel and a crate of sweet potatoes to the Food (War) Supply Committee, and he was also keeping a supply as a check lot. He had asked that a Report on the condition of the sweet potatoes on their arrival, and what was done with them, should be sent to him. He had not been able to get banana chips in time but would ship 2 bags by next steamer as a sample. This was approved.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The Secretary also read letter from the C.S.O No. 3213/3764, dated 7th March, 1917, acknowledging the receipt of the resolutions that had been submitted to the Government on the recommendations of that special Meeting, stating that the report of this matter of the Special Committee of the Board of Management in co-operation with the Merchant's Exchange had been laid before the Legislative Council by His Excellency, and that the matters referred to in the resolutions marked two, three and four, would receive His Excellency's attention.

On the question of Foodstuffs, Mr. Graham mentioned a scheme which had been presented to him by a planter in St. Mary for the cultivation of ground provisions by large planters on a co-operative basis. On each plantation one day per week should be set aside for the cultivation of ground provisions. The scheme also suggested that the planters feed their labourers, but he could not recollect the details. Such a scheme, it was thought, would solve the praedial larceny problem and he desired to bring it to the attention of the meeting. He had, however, lost the copy he had received.

It was suggested that Mr. Graham procure another copy of the scheme; and the matter could be discussed at a future meeting.

(f) *Sugar Industry Committee.*—The Secretary reported that a general meeting of the Sugar Industry Committee was held on Thursday, 8th March, to meet Sir Francis Watts, and to receive a memorandum from him on Central Sugar Factories for Jamaica.

There were present:—Hon. P. C. Cork, C.M.G. (Chairman), Sir Jno. Pringle, K.C.M.G., Hons. C. C. Anderson, D. A. Corinaldi, H. Cork, F. R. Evans, Rev. W. B. Esson, Guy S. Ewen, H. W. Griffith, D. S. Gideon, C. W. Hewitt, W. Coke Kerr, E. H. Kerr, S. S. Stedman and H. A. L. Simpson, Bishop Collins, S.J., Messrs. A. W. Douet, G. P. Dewar, James Dougall, A. W. Farquharson, J. A. Guiterriez, H. W. Holgate, A. L. Keeling, and J. H. McPhail; the following members of the Legislative Council and others who attended as visitors: Hons. D. Campbell, R. P. Simmonds, F. E. Reid, B.A., T. L. Roxburgh, Alex. Stewart and Messrs. Hy. Holgate, Snr., Sir Francis Watts, K.C.M.G., Commissioner of the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies who had come from Barbados on the invitation of the Governor to confer with this Committee; and the Secretary, Jno. Barclay.

The following apologies for absence were submitted:—Messrs. R. Craig, A. C. L. Martin, W. H. Farquharson, G. D. Murray, Walter Woolliscroft and Hon. J. H. Levy.

The Chairman read letter from the C.S.O. stating that the Govenor approved of the Memorandum on Central Sugar Factories for Jamaica, as proposed by Sir Francis Watts for submission to the Committee, and printed copies were before the Meeting.

Sir Francis Watts said that the Governor had intimated to him that he would be prepared to consider discussion on the lines of the Memorandum. He then read the Memorandum:—

CENTRAL SUGAR FACTORIES FOR JAMAICA.

A strong desire is manifested in Jamaica, as in other parts of the West Indies, for development of the Sugar Industry, for which the Colony offers undoubted facilities. At the same time it is felt that to effect this adequately and safely implies the adoption of thoroughly up-to-date and progressive measures: this involves the *establishment of modern factories of considerable size, linked up with comparatively large areas producing Sugar Canes.*

2. It is rightly held that many benefits would follow from an expansion of the Sugar Industry. Apart from the increase in exports that would result, it may be claimed that the expansion of the Sugar industry, amounting virtually to the development of what would almost be a new industry, would be of great agricultural advantage, strength lies in the diversification of crops, for with many crops to sell depression in value of any particular one is more readily off-set, the land can be cultivated to better advantage, pests and diseases can be better controlled, while diversity of industries leads to increased mental activity, which in turn results in development and progress on the part of the agricultural community.

3. While these and other advantages are generally admitted, their realization is found to be difficult on account of the magnitude of the problem of establishing modern Sugar factories, large sums of money are involved and capitalists are chary of embarking in the business unless they are assured of very considerable gains, the granting of which may cripple the cane-growing side of the enterprise, in this way a dead-lock usually results.

4. In consequence of this the demand arises for Government assistance, some even going to the length of urging that the Government might reasonably erect and operate Sugar Factories in the public interest, others being content with less direct measures for assistance.

5. As the problem stands to-day in Jamaica, it appears to he essential first to come to some decision whether Government assistance may properly be afforded and if this is conceded, to decide what form this assistance may take.

6. I feel that much may be said in favour of Government assistance, and without attempting to elaborate the arguments, I may state the main points that occur to me in favour of this contention, many other points will doubtless occur to those intimately concerned with the enterprise.

7. Timidity is felt on the part of capitalists in embarking on Sugar Factory enterprises, with the consequent demands for terms which may divert an undue share of profit to the capitalist, to that extent deprivin the cane grower and the colony of the due proportion of the profits of the industry. Government assistance would off-set this.

8. Modern factories are comparatively large and costly affairs, private capitalists naturally desire to limit their liabilities, the Government, if concerned, is able to deal more adequately with each individual factory proposition. The Government having regard to the safety of the enterprise, as it concerns both the cane grower and the Factory, is not likely to drive too hard bargains, directed mainly to making profit on invested capital, but will be desirous of doing what is best calculated to foster the industry as a whole; pioneer efforts are, therefore, best conducted under Government auspices.

9. In the case of the first two or three Factories the efforts are undoubtedly of a pioneer character and it is obvious that there will be more satisfactory accumulation and freer exchange of information for general guidance when the Government is beneficiently concerned in the venture than when it is left entirely to private enterprise with its conflicting interests.

10. To ensure the success of a modern factory it is essential to have contracts for the performance of various services extending over long periods of time, these are more likely to be entered into with confidence when the Government is actively concerned, and there is less fear on the part of the contractor of his being committed to a disastrous contract, which may be enforced to his detriment but to the unexpected advantage of the other party to the bargain.

11. With Government assistance it is relatively easy to arrange for the transfer of the whole business, with its concomitant advantages, to the local land-owners after the Government has secured the return of its capital with reasonable remuneration and profits arising from its use.

12. Time is an element of some importance and it appears likely that matters may be rapidly advanced if Government assistance is forthcoming.

13. Doubtless many other arguments may be adduced, but I may content myself by saying that, on the whole, it may reasonably be contended that, until the business of developing and operating large Sugar Factory enterprises has become perfectly familiar to the community, there will be considerable advantage in having Government assistance, so that work may be carried on on adequate lines and at the same time the interests of all parties in a new enterprise may be viewed in a more beneficent and impartial manner than is likely to be the case when private interests are alone concerned, and that such assistance best ensures the welfare of the Colony.

If it be conceded that Government assistance may properly be rendered, I suggest for consideration that it may safely and economically be given on the following lines:—

The Government may make known that it is prepared, in principle, to render assistance, and that, in the first instance, the assistance will be restricted within certain limits. That, in order to render this assistance available, it is prepared to receive applications for assistance on certain conditions and to select one or more of the most favourable applications in which to give effect to its proposals.

The applicants for assistance must be land-owners who are prepared to bind themselves by agreement to maintain in Sugar cane for a period of fifteen years the areas specified by each and to supply the canes grown thereon to the Sugar Factory implied in the agreement, under penalties for non-fulfilment; the area to be cultivated in canes to be collectively adequate to the supply of a factory of specified size and capacity. They must also be prepared to give collateral security for the fulfilment of their obligations.

The Land owners making this application may be collectively termed the Contracting Planters.

14. On the acceptance of the application, the Government will be prepared to issue debentures for such reasonable sum as may, in the opinion of the Government, be adequate for the erection and equipment of a factory capable of dealing with the canes from the contracted area, on certain stipulated conditions.

15. *A Board of Directors shall be appointed, having control of the Factory and* all its business; not less than one-half of the Directors shall be nominated by the Government and the remainder by the Contracting Planter. It is suggested that there may be six Directors, three nominated by the Government, and the remainder by the Contracting Planters, one of each set shall retire annually by rotation, but may be eligible for re-nomination. The Directors should have full power to conduct all the business of the Factory, including the making of contracts for the supply of canes, the selling of sugar and generally for the carrying on of the business of the Factory.

16. The Government interest and control being exercised solely through the Directors, no need arises for any Government Department or other intervention, but the accounts of the Factory should be open to Government inpsection and audit.

17. At this or other convenient stage, the affairs of the Factory should be brought into the form of a Limited Liability Co, and conduct its business accordingly. The business of the Company should have relation only to the affairs of the Factory, and not to the business of growing canes; this latter should be the subject of the contracts above referred to.

18. We have thus a Company formed to operate a Sugar Factory, financed by Governmnnt debentures, and controlled by Directors appointed by the Government and by the associated Contracting Planters.

19. I suggest that the Factory should pay to the Contracting Planters, the value of Five pounds of 96º grey crystal sugar, f.o.b. Kingston, for each 100 pounds of canes delivered and accepted, together with one half of the profits arising each year from the working of the Factory, after making provision for payment of 5% interest on debentures, and 5% to a Sinking Fund, together with adequate provision for a Reserve Fund, and for proper repairs and maintenance.

The Government would thus receive 5% on the money it invests in the concern, together with one half of the profits.

20. At the expiration of fifteen years, or if the debentures are not repaid by that time, on the completion of the repayment of the debentures, one half of the interest in the Factory shall be transferred to the Contracting Planters, this may be done by means of shares, which shall be distributed to each Contracting Planter in proportion to the total supply of cane accepted from him by the Factory during the period above mentioned. The Government should however retain the right to nominate not less than one half the number of Directors, as previously set out.

21. It may be considered whether at the expiration of a further period of ten years, or at any earlier time, the Government may surrender to the Contracting Planters the whole of the Government's remaining interest in the Factory.

22. The function of the Government would then be, to provide the capital on terms which I believe to be safe to the Government and liberal to the cane growers, and to maintain sufficient control over its investment by means of properly appointed Directors.

23. The Cane growers would be provided with a Factory conducted in their interest, the profits of which would revert to them in increasing proportion as the capital is repaid, and in the management of which they have, through their Directors, sufficient interest and control.

24. In this preliminary memoradum I have endeavoured only to set out the bare outlines of a scheme for consideration. I have avoided introduction of matters of detail concerning the nature of the cane contracts and of any points concerning the working of the Factory.

25. If the proposals, or any modifications of them, meet with His Excellency's approval I shall be glad to give consideration to the many matters of detail which must, of necessity, then have attention.

26. It will be observed that the proposals I now submit provide that the Government shall receive a considerable share of such profits as may arise, (and I anticipate that they will not be insignificant), over and above mere interest on capital invested. This I think is reasonable and is justified by the somewhat unusual course of direct Government intervention in a commercial matter. The community is, I think, entitled to receive these profits, which may be directly applied in some measure for social betterment. At the same time, it appears to me, right that capital, even when invested by the Government, should receive its appropriate reward, such a course removes the reproach that investment by the Government places ordinary investors at a disadvantage, it places matters on a proper business footing.

27. Such proposals as I have outlined may, I think, properly be advanced for the consideration of the Government, for they have application to pioneering, and somewhat unusual and pressing conditions. Should the developments thus aided prove successful, as I feel assured they will, the way is paved for further developments by land owners and capitalists.

(Signed) FRANCIS WATTS,
Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies.

27.2.17.

Mr. Farquharson moved the appointment of a sub-committee consisting of Hon. P. C. Cork (Chairman), Messrs. Hewitt, Dougall, Holgate, Keeling, Lindo, Guiterriez, Simpson, Alex. Stewart and himself, three to form a quorum, to assist Sir Francis Watts in settling the terms of a Cane Farmers Contract based on the recommendations in Sir Francis Watts' Memorandum. He thought they should get the opinion of the Attorney General on the security afforded by the cane farmers contract as settled.

The Sub-Committee met immediately after the General Committee on the 8th March, there being present:—Hon. P. C. Cork, C.M.G. (Chairman), Sir Francis Watts, K.C.M.G., Hon. C. W. Hewitt and Messrs. Jas. Dougall, A. W. Farquharson H. W. Holgate, A. L. Keeling, and Alex. Stewart.

And again on the 10th of March. Present:—Hon. P. C. Cork, C.M.G. (Chairman), Sir Francis Watts, K.C.M.G., Messrs. A. W. Farquharson, A. L. Keeling, J. A. Guiterriez and J. H. McPhail.

And again on the 12th of March. Present:—Hon. P. C. Cork, C.M.G. (Chairman), Sir Francis Watts, K.C.M.G., Hon. H. A. L. Simpson, Messrs. A. W. Farquharson, A. L. Keeling and Jno. H. McPhail.

The Secretary said that the report of this Sub-Committee which was submitted and considered by the General Committee had been already sent to the Government.

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No. 3497-3474. 13th March, 1917.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 26th ultimo, asking, by direction of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, what arrangements could be made to enable employees of the Society to enlist for war service, either in the Jamaica Contingent, or otherwise, with provision for those who are dependent on them.

"In reply I am to explain that the resolution passed by the Legislative Council to enable public officers to receive the equivalent of their full civil pay is only applicable to persons in the employ of the Government and could not be regarded as applying to the cases of employees of your Society and the sanction of the Legislative Council would be necessary for any extension of the terms of the resolution to such employees.

"With a view to the consideration of the matter, I am to ask you to be so good as to submit at your earliest convenience an estimate in detail showing in respect of each employee of the Society of military age the (1) salary of employee; (2) portion of his salary estimated as covering travelling expenses; (3) remaining portion of salary; (4) amount that would be necessary for a locum tenens, exclusive of (2) as the locum tenens would also receive this amount.

"I am also to ask that you will indicate each employee who is at all likely to be able to be spared in order that it may be ascertained what is the possible maximum amount that would be necessary to be voted should the arrangement for public officers be extended to these employees."

The Board decided that the Secretary was to see if arrangements could be made to divide up the work among the remaining Instructors, or where necessary to appoint a *locum tenens.* The Instructor on service would draw his full salary less what was adjudged to be his expenditure on travelling at the present time. This amount saved on travelling would go towards providing the substitute.

(*h*) *Pimento Disease.*—A letter from Mr. E. E. Melville was read on the question of Pimento Disease at Great Valley in Hanover, and the Secretary was instructed to forward this to the Governor for his information.

The following matters arising out of the Half-Yearly General Meeting held in January, were considered:—

(*a*) *Registration of Titles.*—A letter from the C.S.O., No. 2180-13051/17, dated 15th February, 1917, was read submitting a copy of a minute by the Registrar of Titles, which is as follows:—

Hon. Colonial Secretary,
Kingston.

Only about one-fifth part of the Island has been brought under the Registration of Titles Law. No proprietor is compelled to apply for registration of his land unless in case of a sale thereof and the purchaser requires registration. One of the objects of the Law is to render dealings with land more simple and less expensive, but before the land can be dealt with under the Law it must first be brought under the Law by registration thereof. Before land can be registered its owner has to apply for registration and to prove the right of himself and his predecessors in title thereto for the prescriptive period. The application has to be submitted to one of the Referees of Title for his approval, and notice of the application has to be advertised. It is not surprising that few of the small settlers and middle-class settlers possess registered land, as they frequently do not obtain Titles when they purchase land, and consequently require to prove their right by Statutory Declaration before they can obtain registration of the land.

The fees payable to this Office on an application to register land of the value of £25 are:—

On the lodging of the application (which is paid to the Referee)..	10/-
For advertising in the Newspaper usually three insertions......	18/-
For registering Certificate of Title..............................	2/6
For contribution to Assurance Fund..........................	1/1
For registering plan, if any..	2/6

If the value is £50, the last three times are, 5/-, 2/1 and 5/-. If the value is £100, the first and three last items are 15/-, 10/- 4/2 and 10/-. The office fees are very reasonable. As a rule applications relating to lands of small values give far more trouble than those relating to lands of higher values which carry considerably higher fees. When an applicant has no Title deeds, he usually requires to employ a Solicitor to prepare the necessary documents, and this cannot be done without

expense. When land has been registered it is not necessary to investigate the Title again, and the Certificate of Title can be relied on as proof of the owner's right to the land, therein described, and dealings with the land are thereby rendered more simple and less expensive.

When a proprietor of registered land dies, his successor has to apply to be registered on transmission, and such application has to also be referred to a Referee of Title to whom a fee has to be paid according to the value of the land. When the Law comes to be amended I intend to recommend that this reference should not be required to be made so as to reduce the expense of registration on transmission.

(Sgd.) DAVID BALFOUR,
Registrar of Titles.
7th February, 1917.

The Board considered these fees quite reasonable.

The Secretary said that the question had been fully discussed at the Half-Yearly Meeting, and it had been pointed out that the expenses of securing a title to small holdings were often as much as the cost of the land. He had already informed the Branches, which had brought up the subject at the Half-Yearly Meeting on the terms of the memo of the Registrar of Titles.

(b) *Lumber on Crown Lands.*—C.S.O. letter No. 3026-1306/17, dated 3rd March, 1917, was read saying that after enquiry, His Excellency finds that he cannot approve of the proposal of the sale of fallen lumber on Crown Lands.

Mr. Levy said that he had had better opportunity than most people of inspecting these Crown Lands, and he was always shocked at the amount of lumber trees simply going to waste in the interior woodlands. He thought that good use could be made of the lumber, especially as imported lumber is scarce and exceedingly high-priced owing to the difficulties of shipping, and he was certain that there were responsible men in the various districts who would be glad to undertake the utilization of such material. After discussion, it was decided the Secretary be instructed to inform the Governement of this waste of valuable material and to suggest (1) that the rights to handle fallen lumber might be sold in blocks to reliable men who would be responsible to the Government that no standing trees are felled and (2) that the Government themselves might utilize the lumber for their own purposes.

(c) *Railway Facilities for shippers of Ground Provision.*—A letter was read from the C.S.O. as follows:—

No. 3495-1309. 13th March, 1917.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, C.S.O., No. 124, dated the 23rd January last, submitting a copy of a resolution put forward by the Central Portland Branch Agricultural Society relative to a reduction in the Railway Passenger Rates for shippers of ground provisions.

2. I am in reply to transmit for your information the accompanying copy of a Minute by the Director of the Railway to whom your letter was referred, and to inform you that His Excellency has approved of Mr. Couper's recommendation being given effect to on trial for a period of six months.

3. Mr. Couper has been asked to report at the end of this period on the results of the concession."

(Sgd.) G. M. WORTLEY,
Actg. Asst. Colonial Secretary.

Minute by the Director of the Railway.—

"I understand from the Secretary of the Jamaica Agricultural Society that he and others consider the rates charged for ground provisions are reasonable, but that a reduction in passenger fares is asked for to enable the people to bring their provisions to Kingston or Spanish Town.

2. It would not be feasible to run a market car daily on the passenger train, and I presume that the people would want to come into Kingston any day of the week, and not be bound down to a certain day. I therefore suggest that the following be given a trial for 6 months:—

(a) A market ticket (return) good for 3 days to be issued at fare and a half to any passenger who ships by the same train to Spanish Town or Kingston not less than 3 cwt. of ground provision (the 3 cwt. must be in excess of any allowance carried free as passenger's baggage).

(b) The ground provisions accompanying passengers as above to be carried on the passenger train at goods rate, provided that there is room in the baggage car for same.

3. These suggestions were shown to Mr. Barclay, who passed them on to the President of the Central Portland Branch, and both gentlemen consider them satisfactory.

(Intd.) S. C.
1.3.1917.

The Secretary said that he had advised the Branches particularly interested, and they seemed gratified at the courtesy and promptitude of the Railway in meeting them half-way in their proposals. They felt that the concession would be a great boon to the dealers in ground provisions.

The following letters from the C.S.O. were read:—

(a) *Praedial Larceny Law.*—

No. 3764-2424 dated 27th February, 1917, enclosing the following memorandum from the Inspector of Police for Westmoreland:—

"I think it would not be out of place here to request that Rice be added to the list of articles mentioned under schedule "A" of Law 4 of 1909. This article of produce is grown extensively in this parish as it is, I understand, in all parishes where Coolies are employed. I was not aware that rice was omitted from the schedule referred to until the fact was brought forcibly to my notice a short time ago. A man named Wilfred Rowe in this parish was charged with larceny of a large quantity of rice valued about 25/-. We succeeded in obtaining excellent evidence against the defendant except so far as the identification of the rice was concerned. The man was not actually seen stealing the rice, nor could the owner say positively that the rice which the police found in the prisoner's possession was his very rice. The obvious way out of the difficulty would have been to charge him with "Unlawful Possession," but this we could not do as rice is not mentioned in the schedule "A." So, though the man was clearly the guilty party, it seemed to my mind that the R.M. would be obliged to acquit him owing to lack of identification of the rice.

When the case came on for hearing, however, the defendant fortunately pleaded guilty, and so the point of identifiction did not arise. Had the man pleaded "not guilty" I think that he must have been acquitted.

This difficulty of identification in such cases would, to my mind, be obviated or considerably reduced if rice were added to schedule "A" of Law 4 of 1909.

I therefore ask that you will recommend this addition."

The Board was in accord with the suggestion of the Inspector of Police for Westmoreland that rice be added to the list of articles in schedule "A", and the Secretary was instructed to so inform the C.S.O.

(b) *Entomologist.*—

No. 2814-1151/17. 28th February, 1917.

"In continuation of my letter No. 1506/1018, dated 1st inst., I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the Director of Agriculture will arrange for a visit to St. Mary and Portland of the Entomologist later in the year, about April, when it is expected that other work that he has in hand will be completed, for the purpose of an investigation of insect pests on cocoa and cocoanut and also in regard to the question of the habits of the woodpecker in connection with the question of its removal from the list of protected birds, and I am to say that the assistance of the Agricultural Instructors which is offered will be welcomed.

2. I am to add that the Director of Agriculture has been requested to notify you of the dates when the Entomologist will visit St. Mary and Portland in order that the Agricultural Instructors may be advised."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Actg. Colonial Secretary.

(c) *Sir Francis Watts.*—No. 2552-2933, dated 23rd February, 1917, saying that Sir Francis Watts had intimated on the 19th inst. by telegraph that he would be embarking for Jamaica.

The Secretary said Sir Francis Watts had arrived the same day he received the intimation, and as already reported had met the Sugar Committee.

(d) *Logwood Analyses.*—

No. 2436-1392 17. 25th February, 1917.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter C.S.O. No. 127 dated the 24th ultimo, in regard to the circulation in the United States of America of a report damaging to the Dye Wood Trade of this island, and to transmit for the information of your Society the accompanying copy of a minute by the Director of Agriculture on the subject."

(Sgd.) G. M. WORTLEY,
Actg. Asst. Colonial Secretary.

Extract from Minute by the Director of Agriculture.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary.

I submit correspondence with Messrs. George and Branday on this matter which shows that steps have been taken to counteract this move in the part of persons in America who are trying to injure Jamaica logwood. "Analyses" are unfortunately valueless and misleading in the case of logwood and the only criterion is that of the dyeing power of the materials as tested on fabrics.

* * * * * * *

We have some Honduras logwood at Hope and I am trying to find out from Mr. Cradwick who was Superintendent at Hope in 1895 where the Honduras logwood seed was sent to in this island. The records, unfortunately, do not contain this information. I will make a preliminary examination into this matter and report progress so that it can be decided whether any elaborate surveys of logwood are desirable."

(Sgd.) H. H. COUSINS,
D. Ag. I. C.
8/2/17.

The Board thought that the steps taken to controvert the misleading statements were quite satisfactory. The Secretary said he was republishing the history of the importation of logwood seed from British Honduras, first published in the Agricultural JOURNAL in 1898.

(e) *Contagious Diseases Animals Act.*—

No. 3081-2388. 5th March, 1917.

"With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter C.S.O. No. 130 dated the 9th ultimo, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency in Privy Council on the 27th ultimo decided to defer the Bill entitled "A Law further to amend the Contagious Diseases Animals (Inland) Law, (Law 1 of 1909)" until after the war.

(Sgd.) G. M. WORTLEY,
Actg. Asst. Colonial Secretary.

(f) *Increased Production of Crops.*—

No. 3499-S. S. 46. 13th March, 1917.

"With reference to your letter No. 6836 dated the 5th February, 1915, I am directed by the Governor to transmit for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies relative to the need for increasing the amount of produce raised in the Colony for local consumption, together with an extract from the editorial in the "Agricultural News" referred to therein, and to ask that you will be so good as to submit for His Excellency's information, a report as to the steps which have been taken by your Society in the matter of urging the increase of the amount of produce raised for local consumption and the result of such efforts.

2. I am also to ask that your Society will take all possible steps to impress the importance of this question upon all Agriculturists.

(Sgd.) G. M. WORTLEY,
Ag. Asst. Colonial Secretary.

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of Jamaica.

No. 46. 9th February, 1917.

"I have the honour to invite your attention to the editorial in the issue of the "Agricultural News" of the 16th December, 1916, in which it is pointed out that greater efforts should be made in the colonies to increase the amount of produce raised locally for local consumption.

2. You no doubt realise the importance both from the Imperial point of view and from that of the poorer inhabitants of the Colony under your Government of increasing as far as possible local food supplies in the shape of ground provisions and other easily grown crops.

3. If you have not already done so, I request that you will take such steps you consider practicable to impress the importance of this question on all who are actively concerned in the agricultural industries of the colony.

(Sgd.) WALTER H. LONG.

Extract from the editorial in the "Agricultural News."

"Under these circumstances greater efforts should be made to procuce more in these islands for local consumption. This does not refer merely to the production of provision crops, though that occupies a front position, but it refers to a general organization of local food supplies and local industries.

The question of extending the area under crops that will yield substitutes or partial substitutes for the wheat flour at present imported has already been dealt with fully in this Journal. In this connection it is not enough for the peasant alone to follow this policy: the large owner should also respond and grow a certain acerage of some cereal like Indian corn or Guinea corn, or else ground provisions such as yams or sweet potatoes."

The Secretary said the Board was well aware of the steps the Society had taken in the food supply matter: they were pretty well recorded in the JOURNAL. They had made organized effort through their organization immediately the war broke out, and had kept up the work through the office, the JOURNAL, the Instructors and the Branches without slackening. He would report details to the Government.

(*g*) *Prohibition of importation of Queen Bees.*--

No. 3520-2994 dated 13th March, 1917, enclosing copy of a letter from the British Ambassador at Washington, in regard to the alleged presence of the "Isle of Wight disease" among bees in various parts of the United States and also a copy of a memorandum with its enclosure, from the Director of Agriculture on the subject, and saying that His Excellency had approved of the prohibition against the importation of Queen bees from the United States of America remaining in force for the present as recommended."

From His Britanic Majesty's Ambassador extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Washington, to His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica.

February 13th, 1917.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency with reference to your despatch No. 546 of January 12th last, that I am in receipt of a note from the Department of State in regard to the alleged presence of the "Isle of Wight disease" among bees in various parts of the United States.

It seems that reports were received by the Department of Agriculture during the Summer of 1916 that symptoms similar to those described in the disease above mentioned were observed in apiaries in different parts of the United States. The alleged trouble was immediately investigated by the Bureau of Entomology of the Department of Agriculture, but no conclusive evidence of any serious disease was found. In most cases the symptoms disappeared within a few days, and when the investigator arrived at the apiary where the trouble was reported, nothing abnormal was observed. The Department of Agriculture has no evidence to indicate the presence in the States of any such destructive disease among adult bees as that described in the "Isle of Wight disease."

(Sgd.) CECIL SPRING-RICE.

Copy of Minute by the Director of Agriculture to the Colonial Secretary, Jamaica.

"I attach a memorandum by the Bee Inspector who points out the "I of W" Disease fluctuates and bees appear quite free when the disease suddenly breaks out again.

He advises that we should await the results of this coming Summer before taking any risks over this most serious and insidious disease of bees. The destruction of bees in England by "I of W" disease has been enormous and no control has been discovered."

(Sgd.) H. H. COUSINS,
D/Ag.
1. 3. 17.

The Secretary said he did not recollect being informed of the original prohibition. The Board agreed that it was a wise precaution.

(*h*) *Banana Borer.*—No. 3567-4360 dated 14th March, 1917, reporting on the operations of the Department of Agriculture with regard to the weevil for the period 15th February to 12th March, 1917.

This was directed to be circulated as usual.

British Empire Producers Organization.—The Secretary read letter from the Secretary of the West India Committee, London as follows:—

2nd February, 1917.

"I enclose herwith a copy of a letter from the British Empire Producers Organization asking for your support to a memorial which they propose to present to the Overseas representatives at the forthcoming Imperial Conference.

You will note that they ask if you will kindly cable the word "Yes" if you consent, and that they will defray the cost of the cable. It will save expense if you will kindly address your message in the event of your supporting the Memorial, *as we hope you will*, to "Carib," London.

(Sgd.)

(Sgd.) ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,
Secretary.

30th January, 1917.

"This Organization proposes to lay before the Government for the consideration of the Imperial War Cabinet a Memorial—a draft of which is enclosed—to be presented to the Representatives of the Overseas Dominions, Colonies and Dependencies, who will be attending the Cabinet. The policy advocated embodies a preference within the Empire, and we are inviting the endorsement and support of all Associations representing industry throughout the Empire. It is proposed that the names of all supporting Associations shall be appended to the memorial on its presentation. It is of the utmost importance that all bodies representing the industries of the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras unite in supporting this memorial, and I trust, therefore, that your association will lend the weight of its support by authorising us to attach its name to the document.

As the Imperial War Cabinet meets in March, it will be necessary to place the Memorial before the Government before the end of February, and I shall feel obliged if you will cable your reply, it being understood, of course, that this Organization will defray the cost. If you consent to allow us to attach the name of your Association to the Memorial, the single word "Yes" will be sufficient. I would direct your attention to the fact that our telegraphic address is, under the present regulations, available for inland use only, but if you address it to "Carib, " London, it will be duly delivered.

I enclose a copy of our brief Memorandum in regard to the Aims and Methods of the Organization, and also a list of the Patrons, Vice-President and Council.

(Sgd.) GEORGE MAKGILL,
Secretary,

Mr. Craig said that the Society had already at the December meeting decided to support the British Empire Producers Organization, but that the matter had better be brought up again when there was a fuller meeting of the Board.

Resolutions from Branches.—Resolutions from Branches were submitted:—

(a) *Spalding Branch,* asking for a modification of the Vagrancy Law so as to make it less difficult to convict gamblers.

(b) *Mizpah Branch* asking that the Government be asked to put the Vagrancy Law into operation in view of the scarcity of food and the activity of the praedial thief.

(c) *Santa Cruz Mountains Branch,* asking that the Parent Society take steps to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity of putting the Vagrancy Law rigorously into operation as a means of suppressing Praedial Larceny, as this would result in an extension of the cultivation of food crops.

(d) *Mount James Branch,* asking that the Parent Society be asked to approach the Government with the request that "flogging"

be introduced as an additional punishment for Praedial Larceny. in view of the serious losses now being sustained by cultivators daily owing to thieves that the attention of the Government be called to the large number of idle young men to be seen all over the country very often gambling and not having sufficient means of earning a livelihood.

(e) *Cambridge (St. James) Branch*, asking Authorized Persons be given power to search for stolen goods in places where such goods are suspected of being.

(f) *Re War Tax.—Vere Branch*, pointing out that it is highly undesirable to take off War taxes at the present time, the War being still on, and there being no knowing how long it will continue, and that the Island is in a very backward condition, roads are deteriorated, hospitals are conjested, railways require extension, education needs attention, and several other matters too numerous to numerate, all, arresting the Agricultural development of the Island.

(g) *Hanover Branch*, asking that War taxes be lifted this year.

Resolutions a, b and e were referred to the Special Committee appointed to go into the whole subject of Authorized Persons.

The Board decided that the other matters could not be considered by the Agricultural Society's Board, but were for reference to the member of Council for the Parish.

The Secretary was instructed to advise the Branches to this effect.

Supplies of seed for planting.—The Secretary said he had had authority from the Board to import supplies of peas and beans as none were available locally, and he had ordered early in January from the States. He however, regretted that there was much delay, and the seeds came to hand only this month. It would soon be too late for planting the Red Kidney beans in most districts, but he would try to get them utilized, and the Black Eye peas he thought, would be taken up.

Small Growers Sugar in Clarendon.—The Secretary said that on the question of small growers' sugar in Clarendon, the Instructor had reported that the estates in Vere were not buying settlers' sugar and syrup as they did last year, owing to the present condition of the rum trade, that there were large crops of canes coming on in middle and upper Clarendon and that the position from the small settlers' point of view was gloomy. He would make further report on the subject.

On the other hand, the Instructor for Westmoreland reported that the position there was satisfactory and that the estates were purchasing settlers' sugar and syrup.

School Garden Competition.—The Secretary said the judging in the Society's competition for the School Gardens that had been best kept up during the year had been delayed as long as possible in the financial year as owing to the heavy and continuous rains from August to December, work in many of them could not be kept up and visits by Instructors were not made as they would otherwise have been made. He had now received all the reports from the Instructors, but two, which he expected shortly. He would publish the awards in the JOURNAL. He was instructed to pay the prizes.

Authorized Persons.—The following persons were nominated—

(1) Thos. McFarlane, Montpelier by Mr. J. Briscoe, Montpelier, (St. James).

(2) Alexander Walters, Swamp (St. Catherine) by Mr. J. H. McPhail, Bog Walk.

These were both recommended by the Board for appointment.

(b) The usual quarterly return of arrests for the quarter ending 31st December, was submitted by the Inspector General, and publication was authorised. (See page 129.)

Applications for Affiliation.—Applications for affiliation were submitted from:—

(a)	Merrywood	(St. Elizabeth)
(b)	Further letter from Turks Island.	
(c)	Fairfield	(Manchester)
(d)	Keith	(St. Ann)
(e)	Hiattsfield	(do

The Instructors Committee recommended that these be all held over until it was ascertained what funds were available for the forthcoming year.

War Gifts.—(a) Letter from Mr. Ronaldson.—A letter from Mr. Ronaldson was read reiterating his determination to send no more fruit unless the cases were sent to the destination named.

The Secretary pointed out the difficulty of carrying out the requests of the donors as very often several would send to the same hospital which probably had only a few patients, and might be overstocked with fruit, while other hospitals with a large number of patients got none. He thought it far more desirable to leave the matter of distribution in the hands of the Secretary of the West India Committee, who being on the spot, was more capable of apportioning the gifts in a satisfactory manner.

(*b*) *Report on 42nd and 43rd Shipments.*—The reports on the 42nd and 43rd shipment were presented. These had already been published on page 98 of the March JOURNAL.

(*c*) *Acknowledgements.*—The Secretary also presented acknowledgements of gifts of fruit from a warship in the harbour and the Contingent Camp, Swallowfield.

Instructors' Reports and Itineraries.—Reports and Itineraries of the Instructors for the month of February were submitted and referred to the Instructors' Committee.

New Members.—The following new members were elected:—

Altamont DeCordova, Brockley, Richmond.

Charles A. Costa, Atlantic Fruit Co., Cayo Mambi, Orient, Cuba

Thos. Percy Evelyn, 52 King St., Kingston.

The Meeting adjourned until Thursday, 19th April, 1917, at 11.40 a.m.

———:o:———

ETURN OF ARRESTS MADE BY "AUTHORIZED PERSONS" UNDER THE PRAEDIAL LARCENY LAW, DURING THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

Parish.	Names of "Authorized Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
Kingston.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
St. Andrew	Josiah Douglas	William Francis	Unlawful possession of Canes	14 days H. L. D. P.
do	do	Ivanhoe Blossom	,, ,, ,, Canes	Discharged
do	do	Albertha Williams	,, ,, ,, Yams	do
St. Thomas	James Spleen	Norman Bogie	,, ,, ,, Coffee	14 days H. L. Lock-up.
do	James Gibson	Lewis Stanton	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	Discharged
do	James Gibson	Adam Smith	Larceny of Coffee	90 days H. L. D. P.
do	Simeon Thomas	Edward Sterling	Unlawful possession of Cocoanuts	14 days H. L. Lock-up.
do	do	Nathaniel Johnson	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	do	Alfred Harris	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Joseph Findlay	Lillian Lake	,, ,, ,, Yams	Acquitted
do	William Henry	Theophilus Williams	Praedial Larceny Sugar Canes	8 Strokes
Portland	William Barrett	George Talford	Unlawful possession of Breadfruits	14 days H. L. D. P.
do	Walter Beckford	Theophilus Thompson.	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	Discharged
do	Philip Donaldson	George Powell	,, ,, ,, Yams	do
do	do	John Passley	,, ,, ,, Yams	do
do	Eustace Jackson	Othanal McLeary	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	Edward Dawkins	Nathaniel Atkinson	,, ,, ,, Cocoa tubes	Discharged
do	James Burgess	Daniel Lewis	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	6 months H. L. G. P.
do	Adam Samuels	Georgiana Prince	,, ,, ,, ,,	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	Josiah Davis	Princess Brown	,, ,, ,, ,,	14 days H. L. D. P.
do	Eleazer Destoe	Ferron Davis	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	David Molloy	Cecil Ford	,, ,, ,, ,,	6 weeks H. L. D. P.
do	Nathaniel Allen	Elisha Hibbert	,, ,, ,, Yams	6 Strokes
do	Josiah Davis	Wilfred Fraser	Praedial Larceny of Yams	30 days H. L. D. P.
St. Mary	Robert Jackson	David Henry	Unlawful possession of Sugar Cane	Discharged
do	John Reynolds	Robert Brown	,, ,, ,, Chocolate	6 months H. L. G. P.
do	Theodore A. Gray	Theophilus Barton	,, ,, ,, Breadfruit	Discharged
do	Israel Gordon	Maud Douglas	,, ,, ,, Bananas	do
do	Elisha Anderson	Hubert Davidson	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	2 Strokes
do	Wm. McPhail	James Brown	,, ,, ,, Bananas	30 days H. L. D. P.

RETURN OF ARRESTS MADE BY "AUTHORISED PERSONS" UNDER THE PRÆDIAL LARCENY LAW, DURING THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

Parish.	Names of "Authorized Persons" who prosecuted.	Name ofDefendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
St. Mary	Josiah Robinson	Jeremiah Bennett	Unlawful possession of Cocoanuts	Imprisoned until the rising of Court
do	Josiah Robinson	Alexander Rose	,, ,, ,, Breadfruit	Discharged
do	William Osbourne	James Edwards	,, ,, ,, Yams	6 months H. L. G. P.
do	William McPhail	Thomas Walsh	,, ,, ,, Cocoes	Imprisoned until the rising of Court
do	Ernest Martin	Charles Bennett	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	6 months H. L. G. P.
do	Nathaniel Ferguson	Thomas Douce	,, ,, ,, ,,	48 hours H. L. Lock-up
do	Ernest Martin	Samuel East	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	do	Charles Nicholas	,, ,, ,, Bananas	Bound Over
do	Nathaniel Brown	Jonathan Fuller	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	30 days H. L. D. P.
do	Walter Henry	Robert Taylor	,, ,, ,, ,,	Bound Over
do	Amos Leith	Levi Brown	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	Discharged
do	Nathaniel Brown	Jonathan Fuller	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	do
do	Nathaniel Ferguson	William Price	,, ,, ,, ,,	Imprisoned until the rising of Court
do	do	William Wright	,, ,, ,, ,,	21 days H. L. D. P.
do	do	Joseph Simmons	,, ,, ,, ,,	21 days H. L. D. P.
do	Nathaniel Ferguson	Samuel Smith	,, ,, ,, ,,	Imprisoned until the rising of Court
do	do	Uriah Moore	,, ,, ,, ,,	Bound Over
do	do	Reuben Hibbert	,, ,, ,, ,,	Imprisoned until the rising of Court
do	Nathaniel Brown	Obadiah Forsythe	,, ,, ,, ,,	Bound Over
do	do	William McPherson	,, ,, ,, ,,	30 days H. L. D. P.
do	do	Emanuel Douglas	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	do	Felix Brown	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	do	Hubert Clunis	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	do	Alfred Morrison	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	do	Robert Ferguson	,, ,, ,, ,,	30 days H. L. D. P.
do	do	James Henry	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	do	David Hare	,, ,, ,, ,,	4 months H. L. D. P
do	Henry Leith	Joseph Bell	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	Discharged

… OF ARRESTS MADE BY AUTHORISED PERSONS UNDER THE PRÆDIAL LARCENY LAW, DURING THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

Parish	Names of "Authorised Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
St. Mary	Nathaniel Brown	John Watson	Unlawful possession of Bananas	4 months H. L. D. P.
do	do	Cyril McLean	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	Dismissed
do	do	Wilfred Thompson	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Ernest Martin	Jemima List	,, ,, ,, ,,	48 hours H. L. G. P.
do	William McLeary	John Smith	,, ,, ,, Bananas	Discharged
do	do	John Hyde	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Elias Hall	Adolphus Thompson	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	do
do	Amos Davidson	Adolphus Henry	,, ,, ,, Cocoa	2 months H. L. D. P.
do	Timothy Bonner	Claudius Johnson	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	Discharged
do	David Oliver	Jeremiah Wiltshire	,, ,, ,, Cocoa	30 days H. L. D. P.
do	Robert Hermitt	Frederick Simmons	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	Imprisoned until the rising of Court
do				
do	Reuben Bradnock	Albert Beckford	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	Thomas Barnett	Adolphus Brown	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	2 months H. L. D. P.
do	Timothy Bonner	Princess Robinson	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	Dismissed
do	Amos Duncan	John Marble	,, ,, ,, Cured cocoa	30 days H. L. D. P.
do	Alfred Edwards	Benjamin Forbes	,, ,, ,, Bananas & Cocoes	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	George Hyatt	Matilda Sewell	,, ,, ,, Chocolate	Discharged
do	Nathaniel Grant	James Lawford	,, ,, ,, Bananas & Cocoes	5 Strokes
do				
do	Zachariah Gordon	Henry Davis	,, ,, ,, Bananas & Cocoas	Imprisoned until the rising of Court
do	do	Eva Armsley	,, ,, ,, Cocoes	2 months H. L. G. P.
do	Jeremiah Russell	Charles Dressekey	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	5 months H. L. D. P.
do	James Duncan	Ezekiel Taylor	,, ,, ,, Yams	6 months H. L. G. P.
do	James Duncan	Charles Smith	,, ,, ,, ,,	2 Strokes
St. Ann	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Trelawny	Solomon Marrett	Martha Duggan	Unlawful possession of Cocoanuts	14 days H. L. Lock-up
do	do	Marian Callum	,, ,, ,, ,,	14 days H. L. Lock-up
do	do	Ethel Jarrett	,, ,, ,, ,,	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	do	Daniel Morrison	,, ,, ,, ,,	4 Strokes
do	George Mair	Simeon Barnett	,, ,, ,, Bananas	3 months H. L. D. P.
St. James	Charles Hines	George Saunders	,, ,, ,, Yams	5 months H. L. D. P.
do	Patrick Armstrong	James Williams	,, ,, ,, Bananas	3 months H. L. D. P.

Parish.	Names of "Authorised Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant	Offence for which Prosecuted.	Remarks.
Hanover	George Clarke	Matilda Bruce	,, ,, ,, Yams	Dsicharged
do	John Johnson	Philip Morris	,, ,, ,, ,,	60 days H. L. D. P.
do	Richard Rigg	William Mighty	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	Bound Over
do	William Kirkaldy	Elizabeth Hopwood	,, ,, ,, ,,	14 days H. L. Lock-up
do	Benjamin Crooks	Alexander Bircher	,, ,, ,, Yams	5 months H. L. D. P.
do	do	Rebecca Johnson	,, ,, ,, ,,	Dismissed
do	do	Elizabeth Stewart	,, ,, ,, do	do
do	do	Luther Reid	,, ,, ,, ,,	Discharged
do	Thomas Henry	Joseph Buchanan	,, ,, ,, ,,	90 days H. L. D. P.
do	George Johnson	Edward Smith	,, ,, ,, ,,	14 days H. L. Lock up
do	John Johnson	Alexander Smith	,, ,, ,, Breadfruits	14 days Lock-up
do	Richard Rigg	Eliza Hazel	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts & Yams	14 days Lock-up
do	David Wright	William Grant	,, ,, ,, Yams	Still in custody
Westmoreland	Joseph Williams	Jestina Carr	,, ,, ,, Logwood	Discharged
do	Joseph Williams	Hubert Barrett	,, ,, ,, Sugar Canes	do
St. Elizabeth	David Rowe	Lester Barrett	,, ,, ,, Cocoanuts	10 strokes & 7 days H. L.
Manchester	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Clarendon	Thomas B. Chambers	William Powell	Unlawful possession of Yams	1 month H. L. D. P.
do	Joseph T. Edwards	Mary Swaby	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Arthur King	Elizabeth Brown	,, ,, ,, ,,	1 month H. L. G. P.
do	Henry Clarke	Henry Jackson	,, ,, ,, ,,	3 months H. L. D. P.
do	Alexander Gordon	Sucke (Coolie)	,, ,, ,, Potatoes	30 days H. L. D. P.
do	Frederick McLymont	Alvan Young	,, ,, ,, Yamheads	Discharged
do	Daniel Stone	Joseph Lewis	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Amos Smith	William McLean	,, ,, ,, Bananas	3 weeks H. L. D. P.
do	Robert Bryan	Walter Anderson	,, ,, ,, ,,	6 weeks H. L. D. P.
St. Catherine	Bryan Hudson	Rhoda Grant	,, ,, ,, Cocoapods	7 days H. L. Lock-up
do	Gilbert Wood	Theophilus McGaw	,, ,, ,, Parchment Cocoa	Dischrrged
do	Bryan Hudson	Nehemiah Patterson	,, ,, ,, Cocoa Pods	do
do	Gilbert Wood	Joseph Williams	,, ,, ,, ,,	do
do	Gilbert Wood	Thaddeu Chambers	,, ,, ,, ,,	do

Inspector-General's Office,
Kingston, 14th February, 1917.

A. E. KERSHAW, Lt.-Col.,
Inspector General of Police.

COCONUT BUTTER.

"We picked 2 good coconuts for the purpose of making butter as per instructions of the February JOURNAL as a trial. The nuts were gratered and boiling water used. It was then put away until Saturday morning, the 24th. Very early we started the churning in the usual way of cow's milk butter in a 4 quart churn. We succeeded in a very short time to make the butter; it came out very white and quite hard; of course we washed it out properly and added a little salt and put it away.

About one hour after this butter became quite soft and a little ater on in the day it was like oil.

Now can you tell me how to keep it hard and from being rancid —for that is the trouble. The 2 nuts gave us about a quarter pound. The smell is just like coconut oil."

R. F. L.

Green Island.

* * * * *

We have had much correspondence on this subject since we published two paragraphs on the subject in February JOURNAL. The difficulty is to keep the butter from melting in the day time when ce chests are not available. But this difficulty can be got over.

Coconut butter has a low melting point compared with dairy butter, and must be kept in a cool place constantly. We put ours on a zinc roof during the night and that makes it hard, but it melts during the day unless kept on ice. In the day either one of the following plans is effective.

(1) Get an ordinary unglazed pottery jardiniere with its own saucer; half fill with water and fill the saucer. In the jardiniere place the vessel containing the butter and stand in a cool airy place—say an open window not exposed to the sun.

(2) If no jardiniere of the kind is available, put your butter n a glass jar, swathe this round from top to bottom with a flannel or similar cloth. Wet the cloth and stand in a saucer of water. Keep as before in a cool airy place. The butter keeps quite firm enough for most purposes and if put outside at night gets quite hard again. In both these cases the principle is well known. The gradual evaporation of the moisture reduces the temperature of the liquid.

Every one is aware that water from drips or pottery jars or goblets s much cooler than water exposed to the ordinary atmostpheric emperature and arrangements are made for the drinking water to be so cooled. Why not employ the same principle for cooling wherever necessary? The value of the cream before churning would be greatly ncreased by being set over night in the open air in a cooler as mentioned above and if churning is done before the sunrise the texture of your butter is unimpeachable. If churned at too high a temperature, he sample is usually pasty and no amount of cooling afterwards will have any effect upon it.

———:9:———

INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL.

We have had several paragraphs in the JOURNAL lately, about his product, usually called Industrial or Denatured Alcohol. We xpected some interference with our rum industry, as rum while sed for the soldiers in the trenches was not otherwise a popular drink

in the United Kingdom; while the large rum market which used to exist in Germany had of course been cut off, and all the time British Guiana—which is the greatest factor in the production of rum—Trinidad and Jamaica were producing more than ever. On the other hand, the necessity for the use of alcohol in industries had grown to an immense extent, while the large quantity of potato spirit which had been produced in Germany and largely exported, was of course not available. Enormous amounts of alcohol were required in the production of munitions alone. In the production of dyes—nearly all formerly produced in Germany, but since the war broke out, being manufactured in the United Kingdom—alcohol was also required and also in all chemical trades. Industrial Alcohol has been therefore manufactured in the United Kingdom to meet these wants, but its production became more and more expensive, as it had to be manufactured from valuable grains like corn (maize), wheat, barley, etc., and from potatoes, all of vital necessity for food. It might have occurred to the Home Authorities, however, that wherever rum was produced, it was entirely manufactured from a waste product in the production of sugar—by waste product, we mean nothing that is used as food, viz., sugar molasses. At the same time, as long as we could export our rum profitably, it was hard to get any consideration of the subject of producing Industrial Alcohol here. Now, however, there is an entire prohibition also of rum. In the United Kingdom large stocks are held in the bonded warehouses. Locally the same condition prevails. Some months ago, we read that the price of Industrial Alcohol was 7/- per gallon: at that rate, the price would be 5/- here, while our rum was fetching a good deal less. This year our rum will not be saleable for export, but we could easily produce Industrial Alcohol in greater quantities, and with less trouble than there is in producing good flavoured rum. The rum that is held in the bonded warehouses in the United Kingdom and here, could be easily denatured. All the alcohol necessary to be used in industries could certainly be produced without using foodstuffs, and instead of costing the Imperial Government 7/- a gallon, it would cost not more than half—perhaps a good deal less. The congested stocks of rum here could be easily denatured in Kingston by the use of a patent continuous still which could be very quickly imported from the United States and quickly erected here. There would also be a saving in freight space in doing this locally, to the extent of at least one-sixth, i.e., about 15 gallons in every 100 gallons. The French have already done something like this. The immense stocks of spirit held in that country were prohibited from public consumption and have been commandeered by the French Minister of Munitions. An article now before us, refers to the fabulous quantities of alcohol that are required for war purposes alone. Industrial Alcohol is used as a solvent for gun cotton; it is used in connection with a fulminate used in shell-fuses, and as a solvent for shellac to coat H. E. shells, and as a source of ether for anaesthesia, but the main demand is for use in gun cotton. Probably the food product most in use after wheat flour is potatoes, and these are very scarce in the United Kingdom. A little of the freight space on ships necessary for the grain that is used for the production of Industrial Alcohol, could carry Industrial Alcohol from the West Indies. Representations have lately been made to the Imperial Government on this subject, and we do hope that Jamaica will be

called upon to produce simple alcohol, when our sugar estates would at once quickly respond.

The following paragraph is taken from the "British Trades Journal":—

"The Minister of Munitions announces that the requirements of alcohol in the production of munitions for the transport and air services, and for other purposes directly connected with the war, are increasing to so great an extent that he has appointed an Advisory Committee to consider the best means to be adopted for securing adequate supplies of alcohol to meet the demand for war purposes and the essential industrial trades."

One ton of rum used for industrial alcohol is estimated to save at least 2½ tons of barley or corn (maize) used in British distilleries for making such alcohol. We have no figures as to the amount of alcohol being used in the industries mentioned, but it is spoken of as fabulous and must amount to millions of gallons. One million gallons of our alcohol made from sugar cane molasses would save over 10,000 tons of grain valuable for human food.

:o:

TICK ERADICATION.

EXTRACT REPORT OF R. C. SOMERVILLE, INSTRUCTOR FOR WESTMORELAND.

A demonstration on tick eradication was held at Llandillo Pen on Friday, 23rd February. It was largely attended by the large pen-keepers. It was the second of its kind held in this parish.

Four hundred head of cattle were sprayed in a little over an hour and a quarter.

The purchase of this cylinder spray was a result of Mr. Clarke's attendance at Knockalva pen last year, when a similar demonstration was given. (JOURNAL for August 1916).

The erection of four machines has been a result of the last demonstration. I am hoping that a great many machines will be put up as a result of this one.

Two gentlemen, Messrs. Kirkham and F. L. Clarke, are about to build dipping tanks.

The Coopers Dip for this demonstration was provided free by D. Henderson & Co., Kingston.

TICK RESISTANT CATTLE.

A Queensland breeder of cattle has for some time been holding that he has accomplished what he set out to do seven years before, viz., the breeding of tick-resistant cattle. We here know that Indian cattle with their smooth tough hides are very little subject to the attacks of ticks, while the British breeds with their hairy coats are very subject to tick infestation. The breeder mentioned, however, is not grading up crosses of Indian and British breeds of cattle, but holds that his cattle of all breeds are naturally protected by his system of breeding, and that this protecing agency can be communicated by vaccination. The Scientific Officers of the Stock Department of the Department of Agriculture, Queensland, have not in the meantime acknowledged the breeder's claims.

* * * * *

In the United States more than 42% of the territory originally infested with the cattle tick, has now been freed from the pest and released from quarantine, and further reductions in the quarantined area are expected in the course of this year as free from ticks.

We require steady effort here by everyone to enable us to get the tick pest under control. We are only slowly advancing but still we are going quicker than before.

———:o:———

CITRUS CANKER—A NEW DISEASE.

A recent notice in the Jamaica *Gazette* announced the fact that citrus stock could no longer be permitted entry into Jamaica. By advertisement, also, persons who had recently done any importation were requested to communicate the fact to the Department of Agricutlure. All this on account of *Citrus Canker!*

What is Citrus Canker? It is a bacterial or germ disease due to bacterium citri.

Where does it exist? It exists in Japan, Philippine Islands, China, South Africa, Australia, Java, Singapore, and now in the citrus growing states of U.S.A.

When did it reach U.S.A.? It was introduced on citrus stock into U.S.A., presumably from Japan. It was noticed in Florida in 1912, but no action was taken till 1913 as this new disease was confused with a former known disease—"Sour Scab."

Is Citrus Canker a serious disease? Yes, a well known authority in Florida says of it: "For those who have seen the destruction wrought by citrus canker in its advanced stages the conviction has been unvoidable that the disease will, if not eradicated, completely ruin the grapefruit, lime and orange industries of Florida and seriously interfere with the successful production of other citrus fruits. On trees where the infection is of a few months standing all fruits are infected and all infected fruits are CULLS of the poorest sort, entirely unmarketable. A tree which cannot produce marketable fruit is of course worthless and even if the disease did not destroy the tree itself the loss to the grower would be complete. Aside from the ruin of the fruit however infected leaves drop prematurely, weakening the tree and even killing it in time."

Is there any known remedy? No. Various claims have been made for so-called "Canker Cures," but no satisfactory remedy has yet been devised.

What then is being done? The infected trees are located by bands of trained field inspectors—Florida alone has nearly 400—and are immediately burnt to the ground by means of a spray of crude oil. The ground is also treated with 2% solution of Formalin. Florida up till December had destroyed by fire upwards of 350,000 nursery and grove trees but by the extreme care and watchfulness of the Inspectors the situation is now well in hand.

What is this work costing U.S.A.? The appropriation by Congress at Washington for 1915-16 was $300,000 and for 1916-17 $250,000—this irrespective of funds being expended by State authorities and citrus associations and growers. All to save the citrus industry of U.S.A.

The following is taken from the "Florida Grower":—

In an article in the 1916 Yearbook of the Department of Agriculture Dr. K. F. Kellerman points out that the inspection and eradication

work which has been in progress for the last two years, while expensive in itself, has yielded encouraging results, and that this disease is so serious a menace that the cost of combating it is small in proportion to the value of the property to be saved.

Citrus canker is described by Dr. Kellerman as the most contagious of all known plant diseases and the most destructive of commercial values. More drastic precautions have been found necessary in fighting it than are required by any other plant disease. Not only are infected trees destroyed by burning, but the ground under the trees is sprayed with a formalin solution, and it is also advisable to do this with apparently healthy trees in the neighbourhood of those infected. The inspectors who do this work are required to wear a costume which can be thoroughly disinfected before and after visiting each citrus grove. All the apparatus taken into citrus groves, such as oil cans and pumps, must also be disinfected.

Work of this character is now being carried on co-operatively by the United States Department of Agriculture and the States of Alabama, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida.

It is essential that eradication work should begin immediately after the discovery of the infection. Any owner who has reason to suspect that canker exist in his groves should close them to all visitors and should see that neither he nor his men visit other groves. Whenever possible, he should send for a State specialist to ascertain definitely whether the trouble is or is not canker. If no specialist is available a few infected leaves may be picked off, wrapped in paper, sealed in a heavy envelope, and forwarded either to the State authorities or to the United States Department of Agriculture. The owner should thoroughly wash his hands in a disinfectant solution after picking these leaves.

In a majority of cases the disease affects first the leaves. It causes reddish-brown spots raised slightly above the level of the healthy surface and frequently surrounded by a rather indistinct, narrow, yellowish zone. Before breaking through the leaf surface, the cankers are smooth and almost waxy, but afterwards have a corky appearance.

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WASTE.

In previous JOURNALS over different years, we have referred to forms of waste in Jamaica which occur to a very great extent, and as the years go on, to a more deplorable extent. We do not mean that there is more waste from year to year, but each year there is greater need to prevent waste, and there never has been more need than the present time when there is necessity to raise all the food, both vegetable and animal, as economically as we can, and save waste in every direction

In the JOURNAL for October 1915, there was an article on the utilization of waste, which referred to a subject that has been several times before the Board of Management of this Society without our ever being able to do anything to stop the waste, although we have tried. The article dealt with the waste of blood and bones at the Kingston Slaughter House. In addition to this, there is of course a slaughter house in each large town, and there are thousands of cows, pigs and goats slaughtered all over the Island where the blood is simply allowed to soak into the ground, when it could be caught in buckets, boiled down and used for feeding pigs and poultry, and even at the worst, could be

used for manure. We noticed a place in the country not long ago where a beast was slaughtered every Friday night or Saturday morning a little bit back from the road in an open space among coffee bushes. these coffee bushes were growing tall and rank; they had too much manure. We recommended the man to take off a foot of the blood-soaked soil and use it as manure and then throw fresh earth in the space.

This is only one instance of the tremendous waste that goes on. The biggest waste, however, is in the Kingston Slaughter House where the blood is not utilized. We ourselves do utilize some, as we get a couple of kerosine tins full occasionally, boil it down, and pass it over an iron plate until it forms blood meal, and this we use in poultry food. We think it the greatest pity, however, that the blood and bones at the various slaughter houses are not used commercially, especially the blood.

In the article referred to, it was computed that there were 2,240 gallons of blood per month wasted, or about 36 tons of dried blood per annum. Furthermore, there is another loss at the slaughter houses. and this is the contents of the beasts' stomachs -a kind of pre-digested food, which if dried would form a useful adjunct to stock foods.

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RABBITS.

Rabbits are very healthy animals if they get a chance at all.

There is, however, a great mortality here, especially in wet weather, owing to the poor houses the rabbits are kept in, yet it is so easy to make a house dry and comfortable. Rabbits cannot stand exposure to wet, especially when confined, and the worst form of exposure is a leaky house.

Another cause of mortality is the feeding of green stuff in a wet state. When it is raining, the green food that is to be fed in the morning should be cut at night, and put under cover to dry, and that which is to be fed in the evening should be cut in the morning.

In these days we should look round to see what waste can be utilised and there is always much waste on the average small holding. The other day we saw hundreds of little "tails" of sweet potatoes lying wasting in a small field that was being dug up; these should have been lifted and fed to the rabbits, or boiled and fed to the fowls.

In these days of scarcity of food, the cheapest and quickest animal food to raise is rabbits. We have had paragraphs on how quickly they can increase, but unfortunately, many of those who try to keep a lot, do not extend their accommodation as the young rabbits increase, but crowd a large number together, and crowding is a sure source of sickness and death. We know rabbit keepers who never seem to have much "luck" as they call it, with their rabbits. The does have 6 or 7 young ones at a time; sometimes these all die, or they only raise one or two in the lot. This is mostly due to bad treatment in some way, poor feeding, overcrowding or in-breeding. Great care should be taken not to let close relations breed together. No males should be kept constantly running with the females, and even with the young ones, the sexes should be separated when they are say three months old.

The most prolific variety of rabbits is the Belgian Hare, the word 'hare' being a misnomer; the animal is really a rabbit.

If fed well and cared well for otherwise with no in-breeding, Belgians and their crosses usually have large families.

LACK OF LAND.

There has been considerable talk about lack of land for cultivation, and this subject has been referred to at some meetings of our Branch Societies. We have also had some resolutions sent in, asking the Government to compel large proprietors who are not cultivating their land, to throw it open for rental. There is no doubt that some districts, with a large population, very small holdings, and no large proprietors renting lands, are congested. South-Eastern St. Elizabeth is such a district, but such districts are an exception. Some years ago we went into the same subject pretty fully, and we found after all, that the utilization of land was relative. We found that very few small settlers with over 10 acres of land utilized all their land. Sometimes at a Branch Meeting, the very men who spoke of lack of land, and their desire for more land to cultivate had several acres of their own lying neglected. At the same time, there are large stretches of land belonging to large proprietors, not under pasture, not under woodland, but simply under bush, not being utilized for any economic purpose. But the man driving along the highway may form very hazy deductions from what he thinks he sees. It must also be remembered that a good many large proprietors throw up land occasionally to grow up in bush, so that pimento trees may grow up, and pimento is a crop of value. There are other proprietors who allow woodland to grow up for the production of good timber trees like cedar, mahoe, mahogany, etc., and such trees are valuable for the community. Where land is on rocky hillsides, the production of woodland serves a double purpose, for it conserves rainfall. The Government have large stretches of mountain woodland, and there is always an agitation for these lands to be sold. We have said more than once, that we deprecate any attempt to clear mountain woodland. At the same time, these Crown Lands have often beautiful fertile valleys which could be sold if roads were opened up into them, but everyone who is interested in the future welfare of the Island, should put out of count altogether, any proposal to clear the forests on the steeper hillsides and mountain tops. Sometimes the cry for land arises because small settlers with limited lands have grown crops on their land so long, and with such little judgment, that it is what they call "worn out." Yet they have not troubled to save and apply manure to the land. But we know of holdings of 10 to 20 acres that have been under crops for over 20 years, continuously, and they are as good as ever. Some of the holdings in Manchester which won prizes in our Prize Holdings Competition, are of this type. It has been the constant aim of the owners not only to keep up fertility, but to add to it, by the keeping of stock, the saving of manure, and the constant application of this manure to the land. In other parts we know of steep hillsides where there has never been a trench, never a catch pit, to save the valuable surface soil which is being constantly washed away by heavy rains down into the streams and so carried off to the sea. We asked our Agricultural Instructors if at every meeting where the subject was brought up, a list could be taken of those who spoke of lack of land, to find out whether what land the speakers had, had been utilized. In a good many cases there was real lack of land, and no opportunity to get more, such as we have mentioned in Southern St. Elizabeth, while in other parts the man with say 20 acres of land had a good many acres not utilized. We noticed that at a Meeting at which the subject

was discussed, one small settler got up and said that he had 10 acres of land, five of a family in addition to his wife and himself, and he had only bought foodstuffs outside of his holding to a small extent, such as were not produced in the country, and that he was usually able to sell plenty of provisions to others. One of our Instructors wrote us, that his attention had been called to a man in St. Mary who had 30 acres of uncultivated land and yet paid £9 a year rent for other land to cultivate. Well if he liked to save his own land for the future so long as he figured he could make money on rented land, and get the land he might be pretty long-headed.

The subject, however, is a most important one in these times, and it is a pity that anyone who has the will, the energy and the knowledge to cultivate should be without land to raise food crops.

:o:

SEEDS AND PLANTS

We are amazed that there should be anyone living in Jamaica capable of saying and writing in the year 1917, "that this Society and its Instructors *should be* the medium of distribution and exchange of seeds and plants," as if this was not or ever had been an actual part of the activities of the Agricultural Society's organization for many years, growing all the time as the years went on. Articles in the Agricultural JOURNAL, have referred to these activities; in the Secretary's Half-Yearly Reports these efforts have been recorded simply; in the Statement of Accounts of the Society, the amounts for such planters conveniences have been detailed; the Reports of Branch Society Meetings which are published regularly in the newspapers have mentioned their connection with this part of our business. Our accounts show that in 1913-14 (to take a pre-war year) we had a turn-over of over £1,000 in seeds and plants; in 1915-16 about the same. In the year 1916-17 we have had more than that. But this only represents value for what actually was received and stocked in the Office and despatched. It would not be businesslike for instance to get yam heads from Hanover and ship them back half way, say to Santa Cruz, or get seed corn from St. Ann and then send it back there. The office is the medium of supply as often by reference as direct. The Agricultural Instructors are constantly engaged as a medium of supply, exchange from district to district, and of distribution. Thus what is scarce in one district but plentiful in another can be supplied from one to the other. This refers also to a smaller degree to live stock.

The Reports of the Agricultural Instructors simply mention these efforts as an ordinary part of their work; they are not as a rule dwelt upon except something special is happening. Such reports are not published any more than reports of any other branch of the work; it is all ordinary and everyday to us.

At the time of writing, one of these special Reports has been received by the Secretary, which as it deals with a special effort, as an experiment, we will publish.

One of our Agricultural Instructors has recently written us as follows:—

"There is tremendous planting activity going on in the parish."

This also applies to nearly every parish; in fact we might say to every parish and nearly all districts in these parishes with one

Planting Food Crops and Drought—

There was a rumour current in one parish that Mr. Maxwell Hall, the Meteorologist, had predicted a period of dry weather from April to September, and the Agricultural Instructor for the parish had considerable difficulty in persuading the people to go on with their planting operations. A good many are always easily deterred or depressed and seem to seize at every opportunity for excuse to stop applying themselves to work. We wrote Mr. Maxwell Hall on the subject, and he very courteously replied as follows:—

"I shall be glad if you will have the report about a drought from April to September contradicted. I have never said nor suggested anything of the kind, much less written. On the contrary, I have encouraged the settlers all round me here to cultivate largely, as prices and seasons were likely to be good; and the settlers have done so."

:o:

HORSE BREEDING.

We hope pen-keepers interested in the breeding of horse stock are not forgetting what has been written about the supply of horses for the United States Government in the Canal Zone.

The type of horse wanted was referred to in the JOURNAL for October, 1916, page 393, and February, 1917, page 49. It is type more than breed that is wanted.

The ordinary type of thorough-bred which is here, the leggy and slim type, is *not* what is wanted. What is required is a stout type with plenty of hone and substance, and not under 14.2, preferably larger, so long as the largeness is not merely height due to length of leg.

A blend of hackney would probably prove suitable, but there is not much of the blood left in the island from the Hackney stallions that were imported years ago; still there are mares with Hackney blood to be found and they should be carefully preserved. The Hackney stallion gives trotting action which is much wanted; and also substance. Although half-bred hackney mares might probably be best to breed from, still failing this, the use of half-bred Hackney stallions, if they proved to be prepotent, would probably give satisfactory colts in most cases.

Mr. Lagarde thinks the American Quarter Horse of the Southern States is the right type, and he has recently paid a visit to a large farm in Texas where this breed—for the Quarter Horse is a breed—has been specialised on, and where large numbers are bred. The Quarter Horse is mostly thoroughbred, but of a stout and hardy type, of good bone and substance, reserved for generations under natural conditions until it has many of the qualities the Arab is prized for, bone, hardiness and endurance; but is a larger and faster horse. Arrangements could easily be made for importing mares of this breed at a very moderate price. It would be an experiment worth trying.

The following is a letter from the General Commanding the United States Troops in the Canal Zone, which was received here through His Majesty's Minister at Panama, in response to the enquiry of the Society, relative to the possibility of horses and mules being bought in Jamaica for the Forces under his command:—

"I can in no way bind my Government to purchase animals until I get the definite authority upon my requisition stating what we need.

The purchases that I have made from Jamaica were more in the line of experimentation, because I had entertained the idea that a small compact pony that can

rustle and take care of himself when it is hard to get forage, and that will not fuss and fret himself to death with the innumerable insects and ticks of the jungle, would do better here than the ideal cavalry charger, the qualified hunter. To that end I have bought a lot of Jamaicans, Costa Ricans, and some Chilians.

I have been over this matter at great length with Mr. Lagarde, so that he is primarily as well acquainted with the matter as anybody. The specifications that you enclosed, and the copy of Mr. Rarclay's letter, returned as requested, are correct, as I furnished Mr. Lagarde with these specifications.

The officer whom I sent to Jamaica to make these purchases picked out a good lot of both horses and mules, but he bought a large percentage of babies, three years old, that we will not be able to do anything with for at least a year. If we can let up on them in that time, they will turn out well. The mules are doing especially well: they are just now over their shipping fevers, and we have just broken them to the pack and [illegible] capable. But we will not be able to tell definitely about them for a year. They are so well bred, however, that I am confident that they will do well, and I am quite confident that the type that Mr. Lagarde recommends, bred in Jamaica, will be valuable here, and therefore it looks to me as though the chances of the American Government making purchases in Jamaica of the type suggested by Mr. Lagarde would be favourable.

I only have a squadron of cavalry here at present and two batteries of mountain guns, with pack mules. I have eight pack trains of sixty-four animals apiece, and each of my four infantry regiments have about one hundred horses, mostly ponies, made up as I have described above. The needs of this command, now being horsed, will be small for the next year. However, the increments destined to come here are for a full regiment of cavalry, which means an addition of headquarters and eight troops, and four more batteries of mountain artillery. I assume that they will come horsed next year if the estimates for building shelters for them, which I have just forwarded yesterday, are granted, but by the time the supply of horses is available in Jamaica of the type suggested in Mr. Lagarde's letter, I am of the belief that there will be plenty of market for them here, although you can make an estimate of this matter, acquainted with the facts as you are, just as well as I.

I am inclined that the small American pack mule that can carry a three hundred pound pack at four or five years of age, is about the best type that we can get here. The large well bred pack mules that we have purchased from Jamaica ought to pick up as much weight after they are trained and have attained their strength and age, but the majority of them will not. So I would suggest that the Jamaicans be encouraged to breed just as strong and big an animal as one would buy in the United States for pack."

(Sgd.) C. R. EDWARDS.

Panama, Canal Zone.

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SUGAR.

In the United Kingdom sugar is scarce and dear, ranging from 5d. to 6d. per lb. The price is bad enough, but when the supplies are restricted so that housewives cannot get it at the shops, or have to wait a long time for their turn to get a small supply, while households with children remain bare of sugar for days, it can be realized what this one item alone means. There are other items quite as bad, even worse, such as milk. We here cannot help with milk—we are badly enough off ourselves—but we can help with sugar. Owing to the prohibition of the export of rum, the large factories in Vere in the parish of Clarendon which last year bought small settlers syrup and sugar, are not doing so at present, except perhaps one. Small settlers and small planters in middle and upper Clarendon (many of the latter having planted cane last year who never grew it before), are having large crops this year. If all started making tin sugar to utilize their cane, their sugar would scou overttock the local market. The price is likely to be so very low later on that such sugar will not pay to make. In North Manchester and Upper Trelawny, a sugar is made which is usually marketed in Mandeville; this is called "Head sugar." It consists of little round blocks weighing anything from $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. according to the price in the market. Christiana

Branch sent as a War Gift through us, last year, a ton and a half of this 'head' sugar, for use in the Military Hospitals, where it was very much appreciated. It is not usually a commercial product, but in these times it seems a great pity and not businesslike for us to have sugar cane anywhere likely to go to waste when a useful product could be made from it, which would be in these times—appreciated in the households in the United Kingdom. It may not be realished for tea and coffee, but if not, it can be used for other sweetening purposes, such as in making cakes, puddings, etc., and it can also be used in making confectionaries. At any rate we are arranging to make a trial shipment of 'Head' sugar in order to see what can be done.

:o:

CUBA.

The following is taken from a letter from a correspondent in Cuba, who was for some years in Jamaica:—

"There is a man here who is Manager of one of the big citrus groves, and he wants me to get him a few quarts of "Macca" (or Thorn) seed from Jamaica. He wants to plant the seed to form a fence." (He then goes on to describe the kind of 'Macca' he wants).

"The Manager of the Company here, would like to get some of your hybridized corn as he wants to portion it out among his tobacco growers, of whom he has some 200. It is a great tobacco district round here. I should also like some corn too. I brought some of yours with me and planted it, and it was a sight to see it beside the Cuban corn."

"There should be good money in Jamaica for the man who handles his citrus fruit properly. There is one big grove here that has had $80,000 spent on it and the greatest return it has given in one year after 10 years growth is $500. Another grove has had $55,000 spent on it and after 8 years it is not even paying the cost of the fertilizer. I wonder what sort of crops the orange and grapefruit trees in your parish of Manchester would give, if they were pruned, worked round and had 10lbs. of fertilizer put to each tree. I think they would yield several thousands of oranges and grapefruit to each tree."

We do not quite follow the argument. If groves in Cuba cannot pay with so much money spent on them, how should ours pay with so little spent on them—often nothing. We certainly believe, however, that if we could depend upon regular shipping facilities and open markets in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, citrus groves here ought to be a paying proposition. There is, however, always an "if." Our difficulty has been and still is, a suitable market to run 6 month of the year.—ED.]

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WAR GIFTS FROM JAMAICA.

FORTY-FOURTH SHIPMENT.

The following War Gifts have been contributed and shipped to the United *Kingdom per the Jamaica Agricultural Society, during the fortnight ending March* 26th, 1917:—

Donor & Address.	Gift.	Destination.
Spanish Town Branch, Jamaica Patriotic Helpers per Mrs. F. E. Taylor, Spanish Town	73 Garments (Balaclava caps, socks, etc.) 36 Hospital Bags 8 Pilows	Q. M. N. G.
Mandeville Ladies' Working Association, per Mrs. W. W. Wynne, Mandeville	100 Garments, Pillows, etc.	do

Mrs. Cummins, Kingston	24 Garments	Belgian Relief Funds
Wolmer's High School, Per Miss K. J. Howson, Kingston	67 Garments, etc.	do
St. Thomas-Ye-Vale Red Cross Guild, per Mrs. McPhail, Bog Walk	381 Garments	Mrs. Craig's Hospital, Dumbarton, Scotland
The Misses Cousins, Castle Cundall, Lucie-Smith, Nixon, Taylor, Rhodes, Hitching, Emery & Mrs. Langdon, per Mrs. Rhodes, Camp	424 Bandages and other Hospital comforts	British Red Cross Society, London
Mandeville Ladies' Working Association, per Mrs. W. W. Wynne, Mandeville	650 Hospital Bags	Lady Smith Dorrien, 21 Eaton Place, London
Mrs. Wynne, Mandeville	8 boxes Grapefruit	212 Military Hospital, Norbury, S.W.
do	8 boxes Grapefruit	War Hospital, Dundee

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POULTRY NOTES.

The problem this year with those who raise poultry in considerable numbers, will be to feed them. Unless where numerous horses and mules are being fed, and a large number of fowls can almost pick up their own living, it will not only be difficult to feed fowls with any profit, but it will really be difficult to find suitable feeding at all. The heavy rains from August to December prevented corn from being planted on the heavier soils, and caused very short crops on the red soils and other light soils, while at any rate, not so much was planted as usual—especially in St. Elizabeth, usually a large producer—owing to the large number of men who found ready employment and good money in chipping logwood on account of the logwood boom. Country corn was 8/- a bushel, when it usually is less than half that price, and it can hardly be got in any quantity at all at the time of writing. As a rule country people are much better off than town people for feeding fowls economically, but this year probably the towns people have the advantage—at least those in the larger towns. There is a fairly cheap native product that ought to be used more, and that is rice bran, which can be purchased in Westmoreland where there are two rice factories. It comes to about half the cost of wheat bran according to the distance from the factory. It is perhaps not quite as useful a food for dairy cows as wheat bran, but it is quite an efficient food as part of the ration for fowls. Wheat bran alone cannot be used for fowls, as it is too coarse and harsh, but it is excellent for mixing with other soft starchy foods and so makes a more complete diet. We have used rice bran for several years successfully in feeding poultry and chickens. We intended ourselves to hatch out a large number of chickens this season in order to have plenty of pullets to select from later in the year, for egg laying, but we have had to change our ideas owing to the difficulty of feeding. We are trying to get along without any grain at all. In the morning the fowls are fed with the waste from the kitchen, such as the peelings of yams, potatoes and cho-chos. These peelings are put in a kerosine pan on the fire at night when the fire is still hot, and allowed to stew during the night. Mixed with rice bran this makes an excellent morning feed for fowls. Where our fowls are confined (such as the breeding pens) they have a scratch heap consisting of sweepings of all kinds, cow manure and horse manure, to scratch in, and a small portion of a duck ants nest each day when we can get such.

In the evening for lack of grain, we feed the rice bran dry mixed with coconut meal which is the "trash" left after making coconut oil or butter. Everyone should try and make this useful product and stop buying imported cotton seed oil, and everyone would find the coconut meal of great value for feeding poultry. We do not know yet how this will work in the long run, as of course nothing can properly supersede hard grain in the evening.

Chickens are fed in quite the same way, with the addition of a little native grown brown rice which was bought in Westmoreland. Boiled green bananas mixed with the rice bran make a good food for fowls, but bananas are very scarce at present, and unless on a plantation, we are afraid they will not be very plentiful and cheap this year. It is great waste to feed the whole coconut to fowls, as is so often done, looking to the price of cooking oils and fats.

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Poultry keepers should remember to put a little pinch of Permanganate of

ganate

of Potash is to put a teaspoonful of the crystals in a quart bottle, fill up with water and use as a stock solution. The drinking water should be just a rosy pink.

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A correspondent asked us why when his chickens hatched they should have difficulty in getting through the tough parchment skin inside the shell, and sometimes had bits of this skin adhering to them.

This is quite common in chicks brought out in an incubator, but not in hen-hatched chickens. It is due to the eggs being kept too dry. Probably the sitting hen was set in a dry place and the eggs have not had enough moisture. Probably the hen was set up in a box with the breeze blowing below the eggs which dried the eggs too much. The best way to set the hen is on the earth, but where this cannot be done—on account of dogs, rats, ants and other pests, and where the hen does not come off or is not taken off early in the morning and brushes herself with dew, or gets a roll on the damp earth—a little hot water should be sprinkled round the nest occasionally during the process of incubation, but especially on the seventeenth and eighteenth days. Remember that in nature such birds as make their nests on the ground come off early in the morning and get drenched with dew, and often while in their nests get drenched with rain, and as a rule they make excellent hatches.

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Where poultry are infested with insects there is always one good insecticide to be got if the regular specifics cannot be had, and that is sulphur. A good dusting with sulphur will make the hens body and feathers objectionable to insects. Every hen, however, should have opportunity to take a dust bath. Some dry earth mixed with wood-ashes and a handful of sulphur, should be kept in some dry corner. Commercial insect powder of course is much more effective, but is not always on hand nor can easily be got in the country parts. As a preventive Jackass Rope cut fine and mixed with the straw of the nest is very safe and effective. Sitting hens troubled with fowl lice should be saturated with Paranaph solution. Paranaph is made at the Government Laboratory, (as we have often explained) and is simply a kerosine emulsion with the addition of Naphthalene. It is sold in a form like soft soap, and is useful for spraying animals. It is difficult to saturate a fowl except with a spray pump, as it is not sufficient simply to wet the outer feathers; the under feathers and the skin must be soaked. However, if after a thorough dipping the fowl looks very bedraggled and miserable, it will be found that she will soon recover. Washing or dipping should always be done in the day time so that the hen may run in the sun for a time to get dried. If she is a setting hen, the eggs will not be harmed through an hours' cooling or through the hen going on the nest wet.

Those interested in poultry should remember that one of the most useful pastes to keep on hand for killing insects on fowls, or small stock in general, is the kerosine, lard and sulphur paste. We have often described how this paste is made. Take two tablespoonfuls of lard, one dessertspoonful of kerosine, and thicken to the consistency of a paste with sulphur. If rubbed on the back of the neck, underneath the wings and on the rump of the fowls it will clear off insects of any kind.

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At a village in Wales, a small owner stated to the Military Tribunal that from his 200 fowls he supplied a nearby market with 500 eggs weekly. He was asked by the Chairman of the Tribunal: "I should like to know the breed of these fowls." The appellant for exemption, replied, "All kinds."

This goes to prove that it is the strain more than the breed, and the man who is handling them, that are of account.

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DUCKS.—Muscovy ducks are very hardy creatures, but because they are hardy they are often imposed upon. They are a very domesticated breed of ducks and do not wander much. They do without swimming in water, whereas what are called "English" ducks must have water to swim in, or they will go long distances to find it. But both equally require plenty of water to drink. Where ducks are kept the supply of water is often too limited and the birds suffer. See that there is plenty of water all the time for your ducks.

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COMMENTS.

MORE ABOUT PUMPKINS.—I notice that you had some jokes about planting pumpkins in the last JOURNAL. Some recipes were new, but there are two which you have not given. If the young pumpkins drop from the vine you should beat a dog with them, and the rest will hold. Also it is advisable to employ someone who has a hand

for planting the seeds. When I was at Carmel I had a boy who was in great request for planting pumpkins.

But joking aside, it may be news to some of the readers of the JOURNAL to learn that pumpkins can be kept for two or three months. If they are not over-ripe when they are picked, and are handled with care, they will keep quite well. We have two now, one of which was picked at the end of January, and the other about the middle of February. It is well to know this fact in times like the present, as pumpkins can be stored when they are plentiful for use in the scarce seasons.

S. C. ASHTON.

Malvern,
3 4 17.

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FOOD SUPPLY.—The Premier of Great Britain has made the statement that food prices were not likely to decrease for a long time after the war inasmuch as Germany—and probably other European countries—would be heavier purchasers than before. This means that we here can look forward to our imported foods being much dearer than normal after the war, and therefore we can look forward to a continuous and large demand for our native grown foodstuffs.

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HEMP (SISAL OR HENEQUEN).—It seems that early poling, a very undesirable feature in plants used for the production of hemp, may be induced by: 1. Cutting immature leaves. 2. Allowing root-suckers to remain attached to the parent plant. 3. Propagating by means of "pole-plants" from old plants that have been regularly cut. 4. Propagating by means of suckers from plants which have poled.

In this industry, as in all other agricultural undertakings, a great improvement can be brought about by careful selection of the plants for propagating purposes. The matter of early poling is one that should be borne in mind by all hemp growers. It will certainly happen that some plants will pole before others, and if any are observed to pole phenomenally early, it would be as well to disregard them as a source of young plants, otherwise a strain of early-poling plants may be established.

The average length of the cutting period in Yucatan is said to be 12 to 20 years, 10 to 15 years in Cuba, and 6 to 12 years in the Bahamas.

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THRIPS ON COCOA.—At a meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society of Grenada, the following motion was adopted:— That it was an unquestionable fact that the infestation of Thrips on Cocoa was on the increase in the Island generally, and that the attention of the Government be directed to it as a serious menace to the staple industry of the Island. It was recommended that the assistance of the Department of Agriculture of Trinidad be invited without delay, on the ground that that Department has had valuable practical experience in carrying out systematic measures of controlling Thrips under scientific supervision.

While Thrips is present in many plantations of cocoa here, it cannot yet be stated that it is any serious menace, but at the same time the Instructors in cocoa districts are watching it.

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CATAPULTS.— The Instructor for St. Mary says that the use of the

Catapult is very common in St Mary and that a large number of small birds are thus destroyed by small boys. We called the attention of the police to this, but the report is that they have not observed Catapults being used to any extent in St. Mary.

A correspondent in the mountains of Portland writes: "The destruction of small birds by school children is far greater than most people think."

:o:

RICE.—Rice has been added to Schedule "A" of Law 4 of 1909. Rice has become an important product in Westmoreland. Now the "Authorized Persons" in that district can deal with anyone whom they suspect to be in unlawful possession of rice.

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CUBA.—We have read the first two copies of a new JOURNAL issued in Cuba, called "Agriculture." It is very well got up indeed. The following is the Preface:—

* * * * *

"The object of this monthly circular is to keep the agricultural people of Cuba in closer touch with the actual progress of practical agriculture. The attempt at Agricultural Extension (Vulgarization) in the province of Pinar del Rio is showing that the Cuban farmer needs to be kept in closer touch with what is going on in the agricultural world in and outside of the Island.

It is the object of this Department to facilitate in every way possible practical agriculture; to bring the farmers in closer touch with each other and in more intimate terms with the questions, production and economy which call for daily solution.

THE DIVERSIFICATION OF CROPS IS THE SECRET OF NATIONAL PROSPERITY AND SOLIDITY. We are pre-eminently an agricultural country, and our prosperity depends on our ability to compete agriculturally with the countries which are competitors in the growing and selling of agricultural products.

Cuba buys most of the necessities of life; it is not a question of eating less, but one of growing more of those necessities ourselves, and growing them cheaper than we can import them.

This calls for the introduction of new crops in our Vegas; the practice of economy in the production of agricultural crops in general, and at the same time increasing the production of our standard crops per given area.

The European war has further complicated the means of existence with its consequent advantages and disadvantages. Necessities are at a premium, wages are high, and labour is scarce.

The farmer receives good prices for his products; it now behoves us to produce more of our food stuffs in the cheapest possible manner. The introduction of labour saving machinery on the farm, and the practice of modern cultural methods will help to bring Cuba high up in the list of producing countries.

This Bulletin shall be dedicated entirely to agricultural extension and rural industries, publishing each month such articles and notes as shall result from actual experience and processes, written in a plain simple manner. Technical treatises may be reserved for publishing in Special Bulletins."

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SCHOOL CHILDRENS COMPETITION.—The final results of this Competition in growing Red Kidney Beans from the seeds supplied by us free to school children, have been long delayed, as owing to the drought setting in in December a great many could not plant, and although they received the seeds they were obliged to hold them over. However, lots are coming in more freely now (March), and we shall judge the Competition in April.

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WOODPECKERS.—"A careful survey leads us to the discovery that when his sins are balanced against his merits, the scale unhesitatingly dips in favour of the good points in the woodpecker's character. Without his aid the damage caused by insects, and especially beetles, to growing timber would be increased manifold; and it would be ill, in view of these services, to grudge him house-room, or to remember

against him the damage he himself causes, mainly in his quest for the real destroyers. Rather it would be wise for proprietor and forester *to encourage the increase and spread of woodpeckers*, regarding their prospecting bores less as malicious mischief than as wounds after the nature of those of the surgeon who cuts to cure."

The above is from an article in Chamber's Journal. This Society has pressed for an investigation into the habits of our woodpeckers and we understand it will be arranged that the Government Entomologist will before long start his study of the bird and its dietary in locations where the woodpecker is common and frequents cocoa plantations.

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COCOA. The following appeared in the "Jamaica Gazette" of 19th March:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
No. 132. Jamaica, 19th March, 1917.

With reference to the foregoing Proclamation by the Governor of this day's date, it is hereby notified, for general information, that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has intimated by telegraph that importations of cocoa to the United Kingdom from each British Colony in the year beginning 23rd February, 1917, are restricted to one-half of similar exports in the previous year, and has directed that in order to effect this as fairly as possible the exportation of cocoa to the United Kingdom from Jamaica, except under license granted by this Government, should be prohibited at once and arrangements made for allocating licenses to exporters on an equitable basis within the limits mentioned above. The Secretary of State has further intimated that when these instructions have been carried out a general license will be issued in the United Kingdom permitting the importation of cocoa exported under license granted by the Colonial Government.

The total amount of cocoa exported from Jamaica during the period of 12 months ending 23rd February, 1917, was about 38,000 cwt. and licenses for the exportation of not more than 19,000 cwt. will accordingly be issued by the Government.

Shippers who desire to export cocoa should therefore lodge requisitions for licenses with the Collector General between the date of this Notice and the end of the current month.

By command,
ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Acting Colonial Secretary

We must bear in mind that from soon after the war broke out, and up to very lately, so far as a good many of our products are concerned we have been well off here, with a large demand and high prices. This seemed rather surprising to us at first, especially in the case of cocoa and coffee, because Germany was one of the largest importers and we expected a considerable falling off in the demand. But afterwards it was known that Holland had to a very great extent increased her imports, and that she was slyly making money by sending these to Germany. This, however, has been stopped, (at least nearly so) and so much cocoa going into the United Kingdom has caused large stocks to be held there. We are now allowed only to export half of what we exported last year. We do not know yet whether this applies to other than British Colonies also or whether the prohibition as

BROOM CORN.—In 1907 we sent out Broom Corn for experiment especially in the so called drought-stricken districts, with the object of establishing a small home industry in the making of brooms. We were not successful, however, in getting more than a few experimental plots grown. Broom Corn belongs to the same family as Guinea Corn, and withstands drought. Small experiments are still going on, and the following notes are from A. Leo. Giscombe, Teacher of Jackson School (St. Mary):-

"With regard to the growing of Broom Corn in my School Garden I planted on 26th October, 1916. The plants grew healthily and quickly to a height of 11 ft., then flowered beautifully in January, 1917. I planted 2, 3 and 4 grains in each hole on specially prepared land 2 x 2½ ft. in the row. A closer distance can be used effectively. I had my beds well prepared before planting. The plants are very much admired here and should be largely grown. The parent Society ought to encourage a factory for broom-making, so that this valuable corn may not be wasted.

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LOGWOOD.—With reference further to our article published on page 57 of the February JOURNAL, dealing with the introduction of logwood seed from British Honduras in 1897, another of those growers who received and planted seed has written us on the subject. He states that the variety he got was Tinta Maria or yellow dye. The plants that came up from the seed were quite different from any others; they were white stemmed like cabbage seedlings; the cross is white on one side of stem and purple on the other. Ordinary Jamaica logwood comes up with a dark purple stem. He planted seed in 1897 and chipped some of the trees 5 or 6 years ago. It is not, however, round here, as it is described to grow in British Honduras, but guttered like our own logwood. He kept one or two trees for seed and has tested them, and they mostly all come true, i.e., white. He has been planting seed all over the place but they seem delicate and worms destroy a lot.

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PEANUTS.—This product is sold about the streets of Kingston at 4d. a quart, roasted. In the United States roasted peanuts are exceedingly popular. Peanuts are highly nutritious, and when eaten in the roasted state are more palatable and digestible than when eaten raw. Practically all the peanuts used in Jamaica are imported. The report of the Agricultural Department of St. Vincent in reference to Ground Nuts, says:

"Ground nut cultivation continued to extend. The exports of dried unshelled nuts in 1914 amounted to 5,781 bushels valued at £1,446, whereas in 1915 the exports totalled 10,386 bushels valued at £2,636. The chief market for the product was Trinidad. The best results with new varieties have been obtained at Spring Estate. Here the owner, who is a large grower, found that the 'Virginia Bunch' variety gave the best all-round results. It was superior in the size of nut and bearing to the local variety, but the weight of a bushel was rather less. Prices were satisfactory throughout the year."

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We could with a minimum of effort easily do likewise, and besides could get enough waste in small nuts and in those overlooked in reaping to substantially help the pigs.

The peanut is also called pindar, ground nut or earth nut. It is not really a nut; it is a legume like peas and beans. We have stocked peanuts for seed over and over again, but there has been little demand. It is not an easy thing to grow with the ordinary methods of cultivation that will produce peas and beans, owing to the way the blossoms set and the nut is formed; the soil requires to be very soft when this process takes place. After the plants blossom they turn down and bear the nut in the earth: hence the name ground nut and earth nut. If the earth at this time is hard, the blossom cannot dig a hole for itself. We think that the School Gardens in those districts where the soils are light, might try a bed of this useful product. In the JOURNAL for October, 1898, there was an article writen on the subject by our then Government Chemist, Mr. Francis Watts—now Sir Francis Watts, Commissioner of the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies. If we find much interest in the subject when this is read, we shall re-publish this article, the knowledge contained in which still holds good. Peanuts are largely raised in some of the middle and southern States of the United States of America. A popular useful oil is expressed from the nut, while the remaining meal or flour is used in making bread, cakes, biscuits, and also for feeding dairy cows. Peanut oil is used in cooking, and in soap making, etc.

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PIGS.—Pig feeding is scarce and we shall likely be very short of pigs by the end of the year. It is better to reduce the number of pigs and feed and care what you have well, than try and keep a large number half starved or at least short of food. The other day, a small settler sent for one of our Agricultural Instructors, to advise him about his sow which seemed to be suffering from some mysterious disease. The Instructor called in on passing, and found a very anaemic animal. He diagnosed the disease as starvation, and said so. The man was indignant and called the boy who was supposed to feed the pig twice a day. On cross examination it was found that the pig had not been fed twice a day, and had not got the feeding it was supposed to have got. It ate ravenously the food that was placed before it and seemed to enjoy it heartily. The pig got feeding and the Instructor left just as the boy was getting only a portion of what he justly deserved.

In cases of anaemic symptoms keep a sharp lookout for lice which constitute a most exhausting pest to domestic animals of all kinds. For treatment, refer to March JOURNAL, page 91.

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FOODSTUFFS.—There is no occasion to be over anxious about the supply of foodstuffs here, or talk in an alarmingly pessimistic manner about our position as regards foodstuffs. The occasion for alarm would only arise if we happened to get severe drought or a hurricane. The small settlers, who are the usual growers of our foodstuffs, have responded in nearly every district to a very gratifying extent, and while a few large proprietors here and there have put in good acreages of different kinds of foodstuffs—but more especially corn, peas and bean, and sweet potatoes—we should have liked far more to be done on an extensive scale. We think the Government might have led the way in this. In these days no one who is eager and able to cultivate crops should be without land to do so, and to enable this to be done, large stretches of idle land especially near towns should be comman-

deered if necessary. Surely, a scheme could be evolved to tackle the Praedial Larceny evil with a strong hand. Instead of the Resident Magitrates giving easy sentences to thieves, and letting far too many off, they should deal with them severely. Then the services of thieves and vagrants for putting uncultivated waste lands under crops could be utilised. This is not a very difficult proposition. Certainly the Vagrancy Law should be strictly enforced, as most vagrants are probable thieves. We should have no idle men in these days.

Even if our imports are cut off, while we will probably miss our usual variety and some luxuries, we should have sufficient foodstuff to make us independent of outside supplies so far as simple foods and actual nourishment are concerned. We must all bear in mind that we usually export from 12 to 16 million stems of bananas, and if we need these we can eat them.

It is the risk of hurricane, however, that makes it imperative for every one with any land available to put in ground crops as an insurance there should be thousands of acres of sweet potatoes especially, which grow anywhere, and peas and beans, which grow almost as freely, and cocoes which are at their best in the cool mountain valleys, to have foods not only in abundance but supe-abundance.

:o:

RICE.—We have called particular attention to the importance of the Rice industry in Jamaica for a good many years, but especially since the war broke cut, by instructive special articles in this JOURNAL.

The Instructor for Westmoreland, Mr. Somerville, has made a special study of this industry, and written most of the articles at our request. We have added some notes to the articles, on the economic importance of utilising the present waste lands under morass in the growing of rice -one of the most valuable foods for human beings.

The three most important foods we have are (1) wheat flour, (2) corn meal, (3) rice. Our wheat flour of course is imported; we cannot grow wheat here commercially, but we certainly should not import one bag of corn meal, or one bag of rice in ordinary seasons; there are exceptional seasons when crops fail, and being a small country we then have to import to supplement our own supplies.

The development of corn growing is within the powers of the Society to tackle, and we have tackled it, and very successfully, considering the irregular seasons that we have been passing through of late years. A much better grade of corn has been planted for seed, better cultivation has been given, better curing, more of it stored, kept on, while many thousands through our Branch Societies and the articles in this JOURNAL have realised the importance of possessing corn mills to grind their own corn into meal for use in their households. What we have been able to do, however, with regard to the rice industry, is only to call attention to its importance, that we have suitable lands available for development in growing rice; and we have stocked seed, so that every one wishing to experiment on a small scale first, could get seed without trouble. We have also assisted in getting the bye-product rice bran, popularised as a stock food, by carrying through experiments in feeding horses, cows, calves, pigs and poulrry, and stocking it for others to try.

What is called "dry land rice" is rice grown on the same kind of land as corn is grown, without irrigation. It has only been grown on a very small scale, but we are glad to say that its cultivation is

increasing. Anyone wanting a packet of seed to try (dry land rice) can have it here.

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SUGAR INDUSTRY.—We have made a very great advance in recent months in our prospects for the development in the Sugar industry which has been talked about, off and on, for many years without any practical results. However, in January, 1916, a public meeting was held in Kingston under the auspices of this Society, and which was well represented from every part of the Island. A special Sugar Industry Committee was formed, and during the year much valuable work was done by this Committee in educating public opinion to the vital importance of the subject, and in getting up the necessary information as to how large sugar factories backed by Governments, have been made practical successes elsewhere. The Governor then intimated that if the Committee desired the services of Sir Francis Watts, Commissioner of the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies,. he would ask the Secretary of State to authorise Sir Francis to visit Jamaica. So, to put matters on a practical basis for immediate legislation in this connection, the Special Committee gladly adopten the suggestion. Sir Francis duly arrived here, has met with the special Committee, and has given us the aid of his valuable practical experience in the organizing and development of the Sugar Industry in other West India Islands. He has visited different parts of our Island, and met the sugar planters. The result is that a scheme for the development of the Sugar Industry was put before the Legislative Council. In addition, Sir Francis has given us assistance in other agricultural matters which required the aid of an experienced and unbiased mind to deal with.

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Our readers may not remember that Sir Francis knows Jamaica very well, as he was here as Agricultural Chemist in 1900, while, of course, he has always been in touch with our agriculture since he left, and especially since he has occupied the position he is now in. It is likely that we shall have his assistance more in the future as adviser, and probably an annual visit.

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SEED POTATOES.—On the whole, there has been very little grumbling about the very largely increased price of the seed potatoes imported for the largest planting seasons of the year, in March. Planters realise that the price is one of the effects of war conditions. We are surprised indeed that potatoes could be imported here at all, owing to the fact that they are one of the scarcest products at the present time. In the United Kingdom potatoes were one of the first foodstuffs on which restrictions as to consumption were ordered, and householders are limited to a certain quantity a week.

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SEASONS.—The Spring rains which we always expect about the 15th of March but which were a little delayed, and so made us anxious, have come, and all over the Island there have been splendid showers just in time to enable planters to go ahead with confidence and enthusiasm. The biggest planting season in the year for almost every product, is from the 15th of March to the end of April, and we are confident that if we only have fair seasons there will be a record production of the most useful crops by the month of August. No one

need be afraid to plant too much, on the score of the price to be received, because it is certain that there will be restrictions on our imports of food, and that we shall have to depend largely on what we raise ourselves, so that there will not likely be the competition of the imported food stuffs as there usually is.

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SHOWS.—In spite of the difficult times, and notwithstanding the grants for Agricultural Shows, many of our Branch Societies have missed these shows so much that some have been determined to hold local shows of their own, and some have already done so. The Claremont Branch has held periodical shows, the Stewart Town Branch has held a very successful local show where there was an especially good display of foodstuffs. The May Pen Branch will hold a grain show and fair on Thursday, the 27th September, where very substantial prizes are offered for corn, peas, beans, cassava and sugar. The prize for the best collection of breadkind from any Branch Society is 40/-.

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BEEKEEPING.—The prevailing price for honey is a record one for many long years back; good honey is selling locally in the country at 5/- per gallon, and sometimes more. In addition there has been a very fine blossoming so that the bees have been able to store honey at high pressure. There would have been a record crop for the Island but for the fact that when the season started many of the smaller apiaries were in very bad condition as a result of the continuous wet weather from August to November when the bees had no opportunity in most districts to fly out and so had to consume their own stores while where these were limited and no feeding was done colonies were reduced to a large extent. Those apiarists who fed their bees during this period have had rich reward.

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EXPORTATION OF HORSE STOCK.—A *Gazette* notice of 3rd January last stated that the exportation of animals, pack, saddle and draught, suitable, or which may become suitable for use in war, is prohibited to all ports and destinations in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, British Possessions and Protectorates.

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Branch Societies please note that the new financial year of this Society commences this month (April), and that affiliation fees and new lists of members should be sent in as early as possible.

We should also be glad if all the Branch Secretaries would send in a note of their "Authorized Persons" in order to compare this with the names on our list. Those "Authorized Persons" that are not acting could thus be struck off.

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BRANCH NOTES.

SOUTHFIELD (St. Elizabeth.)—A meeting of this branch came off on Feb. 16, 1917. Mr. Speid presided. The Instructor, H. W. Lynch, Esq., was present. The Instructor gave a very interesting and instructive lecture on the necessity for the rearing of small stock at present, and the members became more interested in the subject and promised to rear more of these animals on the lines thrown out by the Instructor. The Instructor promised to deal with some very important subjects at the next meeting. The meeting then adjourned. J. J. MILLER, Secretary

SANTA CRUZ (St. Elizabeth.)—A very enthusiastic meeting of this Branch was held on March 2nd, at Bethlehem. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the Rev. S. C. Ashton presided. A resolution of sympathy with Mrs.

Melville *re* the death of the late Canon Melville, who was up to the time of his death, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, was unanimously carried. The Instructor then pointed out the serious character of the present outlook *re* foodstuffs in this island, and the necessity for increasing the local supply. The difficulties in the way of doing so especially on account of the increase of praedial larceny were fully discussed. The next meeting will be held on April 27th, 1917.

A. R. KNIGHT, Secretary.

NAIN (St. Elizabeth.)—The usual monthly meeting of this branch was held on the 9th March. Present: The President, Rev. C. T. Rickard; the Instructor, 13 members and the Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Miss L. M. Miller, the Asst. teacher, was appointed Asst. Secretary. The following subjects were discussed and dealt with:—Authorized Persons and Praedial Larceny. It was agreed that the Society's ram be transferred from Montpelier to the Austin district for service. The difficulty experienced by members of the sub-branch at Russell in the way of getting lands was discussed, and a petition to the Governor on the subject drawn up. The Instructor spoke on yam growing. The Instructor was accorded a hearty vote of thanks and the meeting terminated.

J. A. MAXWELL, Secretary.

MIZPAH (Manchester).—The annual meeting of this Branch came off on the 9th March, 1917. There were present, Rev. F. Weiss, President; the Treasurer, Secretary, Asst. Secretary, Instructor, and twelve other members. The following were submitted: 1. Secretary's report *re* working of Branch during the past year. 2. Treasurer's report, and 3. Report of delegate to General Half Yearly Meeting. The following are the officers for current year: Rev. F. Weiss, President; Rev. T. D. MacNee, 1st V.P.; G. M. Bygrave, Esq., 2nd V.P.; Mr. D. J. Lewis, Secretary; Miss J. E. White, Asst. Secretary; and Miss A. Walder, Treasurer. The following gentlemen constitute the Managing Committee: Messrs. A. B. Donaldson, W. Baker, L. A. Williams, W. J. Williams, B. L. Reid, Alex. Gale and D. O'Sullivan. Reports of Authorized Persons were also read. A resolution was carried *re* the necessity for enforcing the Vagrancy Law strictly so as to help in the suppression of Praedial Larceny. The Instructor addressed the meeting on Food Crops. He also gave valuable hints on the planting of sweet potatoes, St. Vincent and Barbados, yams. At the close of the lecture several questions were asked *re* planting of Irish potatoes to which he replied. Meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

D. J. LEWIS, Secretary.

MILE GULLY (Manchester.)—A meeting of this branch was held in the Fruit House at Richmond Hill on March 16th, 1917. Mr. C. F. Pengelley, President, occupied the Chair. Thirteen members were present, as well as the Instructor, Mr. S. T. Glanville, Vice-President, and the Secretary. The Secretary reported that 30 members had paid their subscriptions, and it was decided to apply to the Parent Society for affiliation. The Instructor gave a very useful lecture on "Immediate Food Crops' in which was :good deal of information *re* the cultivation ofo Barbados and St. Vincent yams, sweet potatoes, corn and peas. After thanking the Instructor for his lecture, the President suggested to him that a lecture at a subsequent meeting on 'Renewing old lands and the application of Manures' would be very acceptable and helpful to the members. A discussion followed on the proposal to start an Agricultural Loan Bank, and it was decided to ask the Secretary of the Christiana Loan Bank to speak on the subject at the next meeting. The Instructor thought that the Branch should consider the appointing of Authorized Persons, and the meeting agreed to discuss the matter at the next meeting.

(Rev.) P. CHAPERLIN, Secretary.

STURGE TOWN (St. Ann.)—A very interesting meeting of this branch was held on the 10th March. Present: The President, Treasurer, Secretary and nine other members. The minutes of the previous meeting was read and confirmed, and matters arising out of them were discussed. Correspondence was next dealt with. The rat campaign brought 311 tails to date. Authorized Persons reported that some petty thefts had been reported to them, but nothing had come under their own observation. The co-operative scheme was discussed. A few members paid in their dues. The President gave a very encouraging address, and the meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

C. A. BROWN, Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE (St. James).—The regular meeting of this Branch took place on 3rd March. Present: Messrs. E. E. Myers (President), the Secretary, Instructor and 11 other members. Two new members were elected. The President gave

a short and interesting account of the half-yearly meeting which he attended as delegate. Mr. Briscoe suggested that the plough and harrow belonging to the Branch be offered for sale as they are not being used. He was asked to try and sell them. Mr Herbert Smith was nominated as an Authorized Person for Belfont District. The Authorized Persons presented their reports. The April meeting was decided on as the annual one when reports will be submitted and officers elected. The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

R. M. ARNOLD, Secretary.

FRIENDSHIP (Westmoreland.)—A regular meeting of this Branch was held in the Schoolroom on March 12th. There were present, Rev. I. A. Dell, V.P., in the Chair, the Instructor, 28 other members and 10 visitors. Arising out of the minutes, the members after due consideration decided to buy a large corn mill for the use of the members. The necessity for planting foodstuffs on a large scale, and the difficulties in connection with it was lengthily discussed. The question of the formation of a Co-operative Bank in connection with the Branch was deferred till next meeting. The Instructor addressed the members on the growing and reaping of corn. Seeds of Cabbage and Pumpkin were distributed. The Instructor will address the members on Cocoa at the next meeting. The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem. C. OLIVER STEVENS, Secretary.

BETHEL TOWN (Westmoreland).—A meeting of this branch was held in the Court House on 17th March. There were present, the Instructor, Vice-President, Mr. H. M. Virgo, the Secretary, and fourteen members, besides some visitors. The minutes of the last meeting were presented and adopted, and matters arising out of them discussed. A favourable report on the grind stone was given by the keeper. The Instructor then gave an address on the urgent necessity for increased planting of foodstuffs. The cultivation of cane and the erection of Central Factory were discussed at length. It was agreed to send a delegate to the next half yearly meeting of the Parent Society. Time for next meeting, 17th March next, at 3.30 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 4.40 p.m., after the singing of the National Anthem.

L. G. BAIDIE, Secretary.

PEAR TREE RIVER (St. Thomas.) After being postponed for many months, E. Croskill, Esq., 2nd Vice-President, presiding; P. Hamilton, Treasurer; R. R. Soares, Secretary., L. A. Wates, Esq., Instructor, and 6 other members. The meeting of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Arising out of the minutes there was a discussion on the planting of foodstuff, etc. The Instructor spoke strongly on this subject as well as the appointment of reliable men as Authorized Persons. As there was none connected with this Branch, he advocated the early appointment of one in the district. The Instructor then gave a stirring lecture on the cultivation of corn, manufacturing meal and the value of co-operation. He was heartily thanked. Meeting closed with the National Anthem. ROD. R. SOARES, Secretary.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.—Although so short a time has elapsed since the organization of the Society, the Committee deems it advisable to conform with Rule 14 in presenting a formal Report at this the first Quarterly Meeting of the Society. The Society was organized on the 21st of November, 1916, at a meeting in the Church Hall, twenty-nine intending members then being present. At that meeting the names of one hundred and ten persons were read as having expressed intention to join the Society. Draft Rules which had been prepared by a small organizing Committee, were submitted to the meeting and, after general discussion and some amendments were unanimously adopted. The sum of £7 8s. 0d. has been received from membership fees and there has been a small donation of four shillings. So far £1 0s. 2d. has been expended. The Legislative Board has voted £25 as a grant to the Society to become available in 1917. It is pleasing to be able to record that, on the occasion of his recent visit, His Excellency the Governor expressed a very cordial interest in the Society and recommended early affiliation with the Jamaica Agricultural Society, from which by suggestions and advice and as well more material help this Society might expect to be benefitted. The preliminary steps to affiliation have been taken. The Committee has procured seeds of several easily grown annuals, which are to be supplied to members as the initiation of a little flower show which, it is hoped, will prove interesting. The Committee is now carefully considering arrangements for the establishment of a system, and the appointment of a Selling Agent, for the disposal of Caicos products.

H. H. HUTCHINGS, Secretary.

RURAL HILL (Portland.)— The monthly meeting of this Branch was held in the Rural Hill Schoolroom on the 6th March, 1917. There were present, the Instructor, eight members and the Vice-President. The minutes were read and confirmed. Matters arising out of minutes were discussed. The report of the delegate to the Half Yearly General Meeting was appreciatively received. The Instructor spoke on the necessity for co-operation, foodstuffs and Loan Banks. The meeting adjourned with the singing of the National Anthem.

A. A. FLEETWOOD, Secretary.

DUNCANS (Trelawny.)- The regular monthly meeting was held on the 26th inst. There were present, the Asst. Instructor, who acted as Chairman (the President being absent), the Secretary, and about 12 others. The Hon. G. S. Ewen, M.L.C., and Mr. D. A. Tucker (late Clerk of Courts) were to address the meeting on the food question, but the addresses had to be postponed owing to the sudden death of the latter. The question of Authorized Persons was discussed, and it was agreed to appoint more such persons. The Secretary was authorized to write Mr. G. P. Dewar requesting him to allow members free cultivation of his lands. This he has agreed to on the payment of the modest rental of 1/- per year. All crops may be planted. This cultivation of corn, cassava and tobacco were previously forbidden.

L. L. LOCKE, Secretary.

WALDENSIA (Trelawny.)—The meeting of this Branch was held on the 9th March. Present: The President, Secretary, the Instructor, 12 other members, and a few visitors. After the confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, correspondence was dealt with. The Secretary reported to the meeting the distribution of seeds received from the Parent Society. The Instructor then spoke on the necessity for extending the cultivation of sugar canes by small settlers, as well as that of foodstuffs. A unanimous vote of sympathy with the wife of the late D. A. Tucker, Clerk of the Courts for Trelawny, and member of the Waldensia Branch was passed. The subject of a corn competition was discussed, after which the meeting adjourned.

N. A. LIVINGSTONE, Secretary.

BRANDON HILL (St. Andrew.)—A meeting of this Branch was held in the Govt. Schoolroom on the 1st March, 1917. The following members were present:—Mr. Hezekiah Williams, who acted as President, nine other members and the Secretary. A letter of apology was received from the President. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The following subjects were dealt with:—Payment of subscriptions before the end of the financial year, annoyances and difficulties, encountered by the Authorized Persons in the performance of their duty, and the getting of seeds for planting of food crops. The singing of the National Anthem brought the meeting to a close.

CHARLES E. KELLY, Secretary.

MT. JAMES (St. Andrew.)—The monthly meeting of the Mt. James Branch Agricultural Society was held on the Mt. James Schoolroom on the 17th March, at 1 p.m. Present: Messrs. Chas. Richards, Vice-President, in the Chair; 9 members the Secretary and A. P. Hanson, Agricultural Instructor. As arising out of the minutes the question of a Post Office for Mt. James was again discussed, and the Secretary was asked to prepare a petition to the K.M.L.C. for the Parish asking his support at the next session of the Council. Messrs. A. J. Smith and Chas. Edwards, Authorized Persons, gave their reports. The meeting felt strongly that cases of praedial larceny were increasing and that the law against it were not sufficiently harsh, and passed the following resolution: Be it resolved: 1. That the Parent Society be asked to approach the Government with the request that "flogging" be introduced as an additional punishment for praedial larceny in view of the ruinous losses now being sustained by cultivations daily owing to thieves. 2. That the attention of the Government be called to thelarge number of idle youngmen to be seen all over the country very often gambling, and not having sufficient means of earning a livlihood." Mr. Barry Nugent became a member of the Society. The Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Rev. T. L. Tucker, and the Clerk of the Courts, Half-way Tree, respectively on matters affecting the Society. Mr. Hanson, in his usual interesting style, treated the Society to a very instructive lecture dealing at length with (a) the banana borer, (b) worm canes, and (c) characteristics of a well-kept holding. In the course of his lecture he complimented the members on the improvement the district was making in the cleaning up and planting of their fields. The date for next meeting was fixed for March 10, at 1 p.m. The meeting closed with the National Anthem.

[illegible] Secretary.

CENTRAL ST. MARY.—Regular monthly meeting of this Branch March 1st. Mr. H. H. Taylor presided. There were 8 other members and the Secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence read. The Secretary reported that he had received two bushels of seed corn from the Parent Society costing £1 1s. 7d. Letter from Mr. J. A. Banks tendering his resignation as President of this Branch, he having gone to reside at Point Hill. The Secretary was instructed to convey to Mr. Banks the profound regret of the Branch at his resignation. Other subjects dealt with, Authorised Persons. Decided to hold annual meeting on April 5th, and that social entertainment be held. A committee to look after arrangements for both was appointed. The Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Somerville *re* Renta Yams. Miss A. J. Duncan reported that some of her coconut trees would not bear. Advice was given to her by members who had experienced the same difficulty. The meeting was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem. F. A. WILLIAMS, Actg. Secretary.

JACKSON (St. Mary.)—Regular monthly meeting March 2nd. Present: David C. Ramsay, 1st V.P., presiding; D. Day, 2nd V.P., fifteen other members, and Instructor. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Matters discussed, roads Nos. 8 and 23. A deputation was appointed to wait on the Hon. Member for the Parish regarding these roads. Burial Scheme Branch was proposed. The following were recommended as Authorized Persons: Elisha O. Gordon, Benjamin Irons, Richard Taylor, David C. Ramsay. Correspondence with Sir John Pringle relative to J.P. for this District was read. The Secretary was instructed to reply. Mr. E. J. Thomas introduced an implement costing 4/- for breaking chocolate pods without breaking the seeds. Registration of Titles to small properties. The Instructor lectured on the Food Situation. The meeting closed with the National Anthem. A. E. LEOPOLD GISCOMBE, Secretary.

DEVON PEN SCHOOLROOM (St. Mary.)—Regular monthly meeting March 7th. Fair attendance of members and Instructor present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence from the Parent Society relative to seeds read, also from Albion Mt. Branch on food supplies for England. The Secretary was instructed to reply. Instructor read report of the last Half Yearly Meeting from the Parent Society. He also urged the members to grow food crops both for home consumption and export. The Society was of opinion that potatoes would be successfully grown and regular prices of 1/- per cwt. coupled with guarantee of regular demand. Mr. David Robinson, Authorized Person present. This Branch is strongly of opinion that a rigid enforcement of the Vagrancy Law is imperative, and would be the chief factor in lessening Praedial Larceny. Meeting closed with National Anthem. A. PICKERSGILL, Secretary.

BROADGATE (St. Mary.)—Regular monthly meeting March 7th. Present: Messrs. M. E. Henriques, President; D. P. Williams and Jos. Radway, V.P's.; R. P. Thompson, Treasurer, nine other members, Instructor and Secretary. Matters discussed, grantig permit for selling Cocoa. This matter to be brought up at next meeting, also Mr. Dillon's resolution on the buying of rat poison. Letter from Albion Mt. Branch *re* food crops read and dealt with. The Instructor dealt with Cocoa Cultivation Competition. Instructor asked for Authorized Person's reports. It was stated that there had been no advice from the Parent Society since they application had been duly filled in and sent up. The President reminded the members that all fees were due at the next meeting. National Anthem brought meeting to a close. R. ADOLPHUS CRANSTON, Secretary.

MALBOROUGH (St. Mary.)—Regular monthly meeting March 8th. There were present: Messrs. Z. French and J. A. Dixon, V.P's., 18 other members, and the Secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. T. Grant, S. Thomas, E. Bryan and H. Thomas were elected new members. The Secretary's report was deferred till the next meeting. Officers for the year elected, viz., Z. French, President; J. A. Dixon, 1st V.P.; J. E. Ford, 2nd V.P.; R. S. Finlayson, Secretary, and J. Harris, Treasurer. W. Morris and C. Thomas, members of Managing Committee. An address of appreciation to Mr. A. J. Duncan, Ex-President for his past services was read to which he suitably replied. Reports of the Authorized Persons were received and other matters of interest were discussed. The meeting closed with the National Anthem.

R. SAMUEL FINLAYSON, Secretary.

PRESTON (St. Mary.)—Regular monthly meeting March 9th. Nathaniel Amiel in Chair. The Instructor was present. The minutes of the last meeting

were read and confirmed. The Instructor gave detailed and interesting report of the Half Yearly Meeting, which was appreciated. Letter from the Secretary of the Royal Society. England, published in the Gleaner was read. The Instructor commented on it, and it was agreed to defer it for further discussion. The Secretary informed the meeting that he had written Mr. Barclay enquiring what grains were available for seed purposes. Other matters dealt with, Registration of Titles Law. Ten members entered for the Cocoa Cultivation Competition. The members of the Branch agreed to pool their cocoa to be cured and sold to the Hon. R. P. Simmonds. Authorized Persons report, Mr. R. Forsyth, two arrests, Mr. R. Brown no arrests, Mr. Ezekiel Brown no arrests. Meeting closed with National Anthem.

J. McKENZIE WILLIAMS, Secretary.

FRIENDSHIP CHAPEL (St. Mary.)- Albany Branch. Regular monthly meeting March 9th. Present, S. C. Clarke, 2nd V.P., in the Chair; 24 other members, the Agricultural Instructor and Secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary presented account for seed corn. The Instructor urged on the members the necessity of procuring good corn for seed. Mr. Clarke showed some specimens he had raised from the free supply of the Parent Society which were splendid. Letter from Secretary of the Parent Society stating no red pease available. Arrangements made with Mr. Benjamin for the use and keeping of the Society's Boar were accepted. Read letter from the Hon. R. P. Simmonds expressing regret at being unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Lakeman moved that a representation be made to his Honour the Custos for a J.P. for this district. It was agreed that there is great need for a trained nurse in this district. It was stated that the shop keepers were charging exorbitant prices for food. Authorised Persons present 5, 3 convictions made. The growing of food for home use and for export was dealt by the Instructor. It was resolved to ask the Parent Society to permit the Instructor to arrange for a meeting of all the Branches in the Parish to be held at Port Maria. Other subjects dealt with: Delegate's report at the Half Yearly Meeting. Registration of Titles Law. Meeting closed with singing of the National Anthem.

LUTHER SAUNDERS, Secretary.

HIGHGATE (St. Mary.) -Regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held on March 13th. C. T. Dryden, President, in the Chair. Present, about 15 other members and Instructor. Reports of the committee of the Banana Fig and Chip Factories were read and adopted. A member asked if any acknowledgment of those reports had been received from the Parent Society. The President replied in the negative. Authorized Persons present 4, arrests 6, convictions 2, discharges 1, awaiting trial 3. Other subjects dealt with: Food Question. The statement that there was likely to be a shortage of labour for peeling Banana Figs and Chips was objected to; it was stated that the labour in St. Mary would be more than sufficient. Nathaniel Smith was nominated as Authorised Person for the Harmony Hall District. Mr. A. H. Bernard was appointed Acting Secretary in the absence of Mr. J. J. Johnson, incapacitated by a buggy accident.

A. H. BERNARD, Acting Secretary.

BELFIELD (St. Mary.)—Regular monthly meeting was held on March 14th. Rev. H. A. Mitchell, President, 9 members, and one visitor. The Secretary being absent, the minutes were ordered to be left over until next meeting. A few members paid fees. The following matters were dealt with: (1) Cultivation of food crops; (2) Praedial Larceny. It was agreed that the cultivation of yams in this district is on the increase. The President reports that he had had good results. Mr. Helps was of the opinion that compulsory education for the children, and a more rigid enforcement of the Vagrancy Law, and prohibition of playing games at shops and other public places are most necessary. Mr. Mitchell suggested that thieves should be publicly catted, but the meeting did not approve of this; but was in favour of the thieves being made to work harder. Authorised Person reports: Mr. Dawvers was proposed as an Authorised Person, but it was decided to enquire further into his character. It was mentioned that corn from the Parent Society could be purchased at Mr. Vernon's shop at 4d. per quart. The members were reminded that subscriptions for the coming year should be paid at the next meeting when the election of officers will take place.

EDITH E. RANGER, Secretary.

ENFIELD (St. Mary.)—At a meeting of this Branch there were present: Rev. W. T. Taylor, President; J. H. Gillespie, the new Secretary, and 12 other members. Matters discussed crops, bananas, cocoas, yams, and canes. The President was of [illegible] must

endeavour to keep away rat., wood-peckers, and hopping-dicks, which are pests of the cocoa. The advice of the Parent Society to be asked as what may be done to the above named birds. The President encouraged the members to plant canes. The duties of Authorized Persons were discussed.

J. H. GILLESPIE, Secretary.

BERRY HILL (St. Catherine.)—A very interesting meeting of this branch was held in the Berry Hill Schoolroom on the 23rd February, 1917. Present were: W. R. Osborne, President; Sm.. Morrison, V.P., H. L. Mossman, J.P., Instructor; 22 members and two visioors. Minutes of last meeting was read and confirmed. The Instructor gave a very lengthy address on the war and also the planting of quick growing crops. A vote of thanks was accorded the Instructor. A profitable and enthusiastic meeting terminated by the singing of the National Anthem.

C. M. HENRY, Secretary.

REDWOOD (St. Catherine.) The regular monthly meeting of this branch was held in the Schoolroom on the 27th February. Present: W. F. Bailey, President (in the Chair). A. A. Simmonds, V.P., the Secretary, Asst. Secretary, 8 other members and two visitors. The members regretted very much the absence of the Instructor. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Matters arising out of the minutes were dealt with. The subject of the extension of cultivation of foodstuffs and the difficulties in the way of so doing was discussed. The Secretary was instructed to write the Parent Society for a supply of good seed corn. Seeing that praedial larceny is becoming so prevalent, it was agreed that at the next meetinr the matter of an Authorized Person for the March St. district be discussed. Afteg a lengthy discussion on some important matters, the meting adjourned with the singing of the National Anthem. A. D. THOMPSON, Secretary.

GLENGOFFE (St. Catherine.)—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held in the Grateful Hill Schoolroom on 6th March, 1917. The subjects of non-delivery of Journals to certain members, Authorized Persons, Food Crops and a few minor matters were discussed and dealt with. The meeting then adjourned to the 3rd April, after the singing of the National Anthem.

T. E. COOTE, Secretary.

FRANKFIELD (Clarendon.)—The monthly meeting of this Society was held on the 1st of March. The President, Instructor, Secretary and 8 members were present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The principal subjects discussed were foodstuffs, praedial Larceny and the necessity of having a J. P. in the district. Minor matters were dealt with and the meeting adjourned till the 29th of March. G. DANIEL DAWKINS, Secretary.

ORACABESSA (St. Mary.)—Regular monthly meeting February 28th. Present: Rev. W. D. Henderson, President 18 members, the Instructor and Secretary. Papers were read by Messrs. A. F. Walter, A. Bramwell, W. E. White and R. A. Silvera on Praedial Larceny. Among the recommendations put forward for combating this evil were: 1. Increase of number of District rural constables' and detectives, and increased pay for such men. 2. Photographs of praedial thieves with list of address of such people. 3. Reformatories for old and young. 4. Increased wages for peasant classes, or emigration. 5. Segregation and remunerative labour. 6. Longer terms of imprisonment. 7. Establishment of farms in convenient places where methodical and remunerative labour could be done. 8. Granting of certificates to discharged prisoners, and police supervision for six months. 9. More rigid application of Vagrancy and Trespass Laws. Instructor read extracts from reports of the Highgate Branch on the same subjects. The Food Question was discussed by the Instructor and members. The report of Authorized Persons showed that they were kept very busy all the time and they have secured many convictions. Joseph Vassel was nominated as an Authorized Person by Mr. Sutherland. Mr. Webster gave notice of the following resolution: In view of the fact that the Fruit Companies have decided not to make contracts with the banana growers, thereby causing much uneasiness and uncertainty, the question be fully discussd with the hope that some arrangements may be made whereby growers may be certain of disposing of their products. T. H. WYNTER, Secretary.

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For use with Arsenite of Soda as a spray for the destruction ot ticks. Sold in 50 lb. drums at 12/6 or at 3d. per lb. Not less than four lbs. are sold at a time.

Paranaph may also be used as an insecticide for sucking insects and as a wash for fleas on dogs.

A.—The most economical source of Arsenic for adding to Paranaph for the treatment of ticks on Cattle is *Commercial Arsenite of Soda* 80% This is now supplied by the Department at 4d. per lb., in bulk, or in tins, each holding 8 ounces, at 3d, per tin. An effective Paranaph Arsenite of Soda Wash for ticks can be prepared at a less cost than that of the proprietary dips.

CARBON BI-SULPHIDE.

For use in the fumigation of corn, &c., attacked by weevils and for the destruction of ants and grubs in the soil as well as for the disinfection of clothes and books. Price 7d. per lb. Iron drum for storing (to hold 10lbs.) 2/11d. Freight free by rail.

SULPHATE OF COPPER.

For use as a fungicide. Price 8d. per lb.